

THE NATIONAL

# Wool Grower

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MARCH, 1942

PERIODICAL DEPARTMENT  
NUMBER 3

**Wool Price Ceiling Order**

♦ ♦ ♦

**New Wool Conservation  
Order**

♦ ♦ ♦

**Dr. McClure's Convention  
Address**

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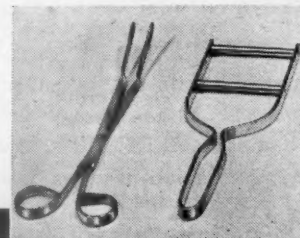
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# Sheep and Wool Affairs

## WOOL CONTRACTING

RECENT weeks have reported one of the largest waves of contracting of unshorn wools that has been known for many years.

The fact that the temporary ceiling prices made it possible for dealers to pay above 1941 prices and still resell contracts to mills to allow a margin had made business quite active in many states before February 21. When the somewhat higher regular ceiling prices were announced on that day, there was almost a scramble to buy and sell for several days. Now, on March 7, Boston says that contracting has quieted down, partly because mills are less ready to take over contracts at close to ceiling prices.

Dr. McClure's comment on recent developments states the facts very clearly. Few growers can appraise their own clips on the basis of ceiling prices for clean wool. It had been considered, before February 21, that ceiling prices would come to prevail generally in the markets. This may yet become true, if the balance of the growers do not crowd for sales at lower levels.

It was most unfortunate that the O.P.A. official release included the statement that the new ceiling was based on the December 15 average of 37.1 cents for all kinds of wool at farms or ranches in all parts of the country. While the O.P.A. did select December 15 as the base date, there really is no relationship between the so-called "farm grease price" and the Boston clean values as officially adopted.

## ARMY PURCHASES

THE defense appropriation bill just passed by Congress carries one and one-half billion dollars for clothing to be purchased by the War Department. Most of this will be woollen material, and should act as an aid to the market. Mills now know ceiling prices on domestic shorn wools, and also that some wools may be obtained at less than ceiling prices, but apparently the former scales on pulled and foreign wools are to be revised. We are informed that the War Department will make awards based on the use of at least 50 per cent of domestic wool at ceiling prices.

## CEILINGS ON FOREIGN WOOL

IT WOULD seem that the time has come to drop the distinction in foreign and domestic wool ceilings. They were valued on the same basis in 1918. If it is considered undesirable to advance foreign wool values to the level of domestics, a reasonable plan would be for the government to take over foreign stocks at approximate cost, which was the first step taken in 1918, after which it came about that the government controlled all wool stocks.

It seems that, after all, war and ceilings have not materially changed the picture for the western growers. As a group, the situation is largely in their hands. It can at least be hoped that as the season advances, and selling is done in

a more orderly fashion, growers will secure prices more nearly in accord with ceiling figures than have prevailed in much of the early contracting.

## CEILINGS

THE facts about the fixing of ceiling prices are presented in a separate story in this issue. It must be remembered that the growers' representatives who were in Washington did not have the option of rejecting or changing the order, and did not know its contents until a few hours before it was issued. They had had discussions with O.P.A. officials earlier as to the possible methods that might be employed in formulating the ceiling in a way to accord with the Price Control Act. The announced prices are certain to continue in effect for the 1942 season.

Now that the error of the 37-cent grease price announcement is understood, and operations are less hectic, the ceiling plan should work out more nearly as was expected. It may be that the operation of the ceilings will be such as to bring support to the take-over plan which still is not favored by W.P.B. officials, though it has the sympathy of many Senators and Congressmen from wool states. It must always be recalled that the purpose of the Price Control Act was not to support prices, but to restrain them. Nevertheless, wool growers need and are entitled to ceiling prices less necessary expense and reasonable margins necessary to move the clips into channels of consumption.

## WOOL CONSERVATION

THIS subject also is discussed separately in this issue. The announced intention to later require the use of substitutes with all new wool which mills are to be permitted to use is peculiarly distressing to manufacturers who have adapted their processes and geared their operations to the production of high quality goods. The effect of the order, if made, would be long-continued. It would injure many cloth makers, and also growers to some extent; the latter, through the fact that no goods of all new wool would be available.

Mr. Byron Wilson and F. E. Ackerman for the American Wool Council have been called on in Washington by a number of manufacturers most deeply concerned, and have issued statements pointing out the undesirable effects of the plan.

What with ceilings, the bag problem, conservation orders and what not, the path of the wool grower during the war is sure to be most difficult. All must sacrifice and suffer serious inconveniences to help win the war. Preaching about patriotism is not called for. It is a case of doing all that is possible to temper and make reasonable government policies and regulations, and then digging in to do the best possible under very trying conditions.

F. R. Marshall

## Livestock and Wool Freight Rates Increased 3 Per Cent

ON MARCH 2 the Interstate Commerce Commission announced its decision in Ex Parte 148, which was the case in which the railways asked for a general increase of 10 per cent in all freight rates. An increase of 3 per cent in livestock wool rates has been approved.

An increase of 10 per cent in passenger fares was announced late in January shortly after the close of the hearings and argument conducted at St. Louis, Missouri.

Holding the increase in livestock and wool to 3 per cent was the result of the efforts of Charles E. Blaine, traffic counsel for the National Wool Growers Association and the American National Live Stock Association; Lee J. Quasey of the National Livestock Marketing Association; Charles A. Stewart of the Livestock Traffic Association in Texas; and Al S. Johnson of the United States Department of Agriculture.

An increase of 6 per cent was granted on most commodities. The 3 per cent increase will apply to raw agricultural commodities and products of mines.

The new rates were authorized for the duration of the war and six months thereafter.

A resume of Mr. Blaine's testimony and argument in the proceedings at St. Louis was printed on page 4 of the February issue of the National Wool Grower.

## Northwest Secures Reduction In Wool Rates

AFTER a year's effort on the part of the Pacific Wool Growers, their application for a reduction in wool freight rates from Oregon and Washington points from \$2.84 to \$2.33 per hundred has been granted, according to R. A. Ward, who has been in Washington recently working on the rate reduction. This amounts to a saving of slightly over one-half cent per pound for all growers in Washington and Oregon on all wools shipped east or about 5 cents per sheep.

When the Pacific Wool Growers dis-

covered that Oregon and Washington wool growers were paying \$2.84 per hundred while California was enjoying a rate of \$2.33, the association applied for a reduction to \$2.33 in March, 1941. The Oregon and Washington Wool Growers Associations and the Boston Wool Trade Association joined in the application. The application was approved by the rail lines west of Chicago, but was not approved by the Trunk Line Association.

Recently Mr. Ward enlisted the active support of the Transportation Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, and Al S. Johnson of that division and Mr. Ward prosecuted the application with the eastern lines recently in Washington and New York with the result that the application was approved by all railroads on February 25 and the reduction will go into effect early in April.

This reduction in the freight rate represents a savings of \$110,000 to wool growers on all wools produced in Oregon and Washington.

(Editor's Note: According to information received from Al S. Johnson of the Transportation Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, under the 3 per cent increase granted in wool freight rates by the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission in Ex Parte 148, the new wool rate, which is expected to be effective within the next two weeks from north Pacific Coast points, will be \$2.40. If the reduction had not been secured, the rate would be \$2.92½; that is, \$2.84 plus 3 per cent.)

## Storage of Wool at Railroad Points

ABOUT one year ago, the Interstate Commerce Commission conducted hearings relative to the customs of the railroads in affording wool shippers storage facilities.

On February 2, 1942, the official decision was rendered. The majority found and concluded as follows:

1. Practices of respondent rail carriers and motor carries in according the 60 days' free storage in some instances and 10 days' free storage in other instances on wool and mohair at points of origin in mountain-Pacific territory, except in serviceable box cars, found not unreasonable or otherwise unlawful.

2. Practice of rail carriers of using serviceable box cars for the storage of wool and mohair at points of origin in mountain-

Pacific territory found to be an unreasonable car service practice.

3. Practice of rail carriers of allowing 10 days' free time for loading cars of wool and mohair in mountain-Pacific territory found to be an unreasonable car service practice.

4. Discontinuance of unreasonable car service practices directed and proceeding held open for compliance with findings.

The report, while not as favorable as that proposed by the Examiner, contains many things in favor of the wool producers. On sheet 27 the majority state:

However, the revenues received under the present rates on wool from and within this territory appear to be adequate to cover the free storage services accorded.

The foregoing refers to rates reduced by the rail lines to meet motor truck competition.

Apparently the majority rejected the conclusion of the Examiner on the ground of changed conditions respecting car service since his report was rendered. On sheet 28 the majority further state:

Conditions with respect to car service have materially changed during the pendency of this proceeding. The present and impending demand for serviceable box cars is shown in the recent reports of the rail lines, and it is now imperative that carriers should adopt restrictive measures to meet this emergency situation. Under present conditions we believe that the rail carriers should cease the use of serviceable box cars for the storage of wool at points of origin.

Chairman Aitchison dissented in part. Commissioners Lee, Mahaffie, and Splawn joined in his dissent. Commissioner Alldredge did not participate in the proceeding. Commissioner Aitchison's dissent fully supported the wool producers, railroads, and the Examiner.

## Wasteful Transportation

THE Interstate Commerce Commission recently issued Service Order No. 68, which relates to the use of all freight cars, including stock cars, to become effective February 15, 1942. The order was promulgated as an emergency measure to eliminate misuse and wasteful use of railroad equipment. This order would require the livestock shipper to pay freight charges on the size car furnished. That is, if a double-deck car is ordered, and two single-deck cars furnished, the charges would be based on two single-deck cars. If a 36-

March, 1942

# ARMY TO USE DOMESTIC WOOL

The Quartermaster Corps stated the week of March 2 that in negotiations for future clothing equipment of the Army they would award contracts on the basis of not less than 50 per cent domestic wool and at ceiling prices. This announcement insures the use of all domestic wool suitable for Army consumption. The fact that official ceiling prices for foreign wools are lower than the recently announced domestic scale has caused a fear that the foreign wool supply might be used in advance of the domestic wools. The statement from the Quartermaster Corps dispels that fear.

so that there can be no complaint nor necessity for orders or regulations which which may work great harm to the industry.

## The Wool Mixup

I WANT to suggest that wool growers who have not sold their wool should most seriously study the wool ceiling prices set up by the government before taking final action. Under that ceiling, shrinkage and length of fiber are more important than formerly,—also, choice clips may exceed ceiling prices by cents per pound.

I am entirely satisfied with the prices the government has fixed, and equally dissatisfied with the involved and confusing basis given for arriving at these prices. Under this ceiling, no grower can determine within cents per pound what his wool is worth until and unless it is graded. And growers cannot grade their own wool. To sell wool intelligently under this ceiling, the grower must not only know the shrink of his wool, but also the length, whether it is 2 inches, 2½ inches, 3 inches, or 3½ inches long. This is a "New Deal" for the wool grower.

Had our early Idaho wools been consigned and graded, they would have netted the grower as high as 4 cents above what he received, after allowing a fair commission for handling. Some of our wools sold at 40 cents here will bring 50 cents in Boston. The fact that a huge amount of our wool sold in the 24 hours following the announcement of the ceiling indicates that there was "something doing" that the grower did not understand. Of course, these growers who sold before the ceiling was announced were just speculating and are not entitled to sympathy. However, the fellow who sold after the ceiling had been announced, and who did not know what it was, has a legitimate kick that will sooner or later reach the ears of Congress.

This ceiling plan is not the one endorsed by the National Wool Growers Association, or one approved by their special committee in Washington. It has already developed most of the faults and follies predicted for it. It may survive the present season, and that is

doubtful, but it will not live another year. The government has taken over 75 per cent of the domestic clip, and fixed the price of all of it. It has therefore assumed what must be the moral obligation to see that the producer gets the fixed price.

But water over the wheel will return to turn another wheel some day; so let us do these things:

1. Ask the government to issue orders to all wool buyers that wool sacks used in 1942 be returned to the wool grower.
2. Since the fixed ceiling prices make no deduction for tags, let us make no such reduction in the future.
3. Since the ceiling price fixes blacks at one fifth off, let us no longer allow a one-third deduction.
4. Ask that the government supervise the grading of all 1942 wool and furnish the grower with an exact report thereon.
5. Where the government fixes the price of an agricultural commodity and uses, for military purposes, more than 50 per cent of such commodity, ask the Congress to legislate so that the government will take over the entire product, and itself dispose of what it does not need.
6. Here and now ask the government to prohibit the sale of all 1943 wool until such time as the growers are fully advised as to all conditions of sale.

S. W. McClure

## Livestock Car Service Order

WIRES received just as the Wool Grower goes to press partially clarify the situation regarding the proposed I.C.C. Order 68.

So far as livestock is concerned, this order is superseded by Order 71, the main result of which is to suspend the arrangement to provide for trailer or follow-lot cars. This arrangement is used particularly at market and concentration points and formerly permitted the shipping of overflow as a part car at the same rate as the main part of the shipment. Apparently this change will not seriously affect shipments by range men from actual country points of origin.

The new order also requires carriers to pool all livestock car equipment and to furnish double decks when ordered to the extent available. In the main part of the range shipping area, this is not likely to cause much change.

Full details are not yet available, but the above seems to be the principal effect of the new order.

foot car is ordered and a 40-foot car furnished, the charges would be based on a 40-foot car.

This order was the subject of a conference in Washington, February 16, 1942, between representatives of the livestock industry, railroads, a member of the Commission, and a number of the Commission's staff. The effective date of the order as to livestock has been postponed until March 15, 1942, and we have been asked to call this matter to the attention of the livestock industry of the West in an effort to secure the voluntary cooperation of the industry in eliminating abuse and wasteful transportation in the use of stock cars. There is at present no shortage of stock cars but a possibility of a shortage in the future, and you are therefore urgently requested to:

1. Use the utmost care in determining the number of cars required and see that all cars are fully loaded as nearly as it is possible for you to do so.
2. Determine definitely before placing your car order, the type of car needed, that is, 36-foot, 40-foot; single-deck or double-deck.
3. Be definite about loading date and time, and have livestock ready to go at that time.
4. Do not under any circumstances order 36-foot cars with any agreement or understanding that 40-foot cars will be furnished, or double-deck cars with the understanding that single-deck cars will be furnished. To do so is a violation of law, subjecting both the shipper and railroad to heavy penalties.

We cannot impress upon you too strongly the importance of sincerely and wholeheartedly observing these suggestions. We know the livestock producers will do their part in eliminating any abuse or wasteful use of stock cars,



# Wool Price Ceiling Order

THE official scale of maximum prices for domestic wools was announced by the Office of Price Administration on February 22, to take effect on February 28. The official list of prices is contained in this article.

On February 5, 6, 12, and 21, representatives of the wool growers held conferences with O.P.A. officials. These representatives included F. R. Marshall and J. B. Wilson for the National Wool Growers Association, C. J. Fawcett for the National Wool Marketing Corporation, R. A. Ward for the Pacific Wool Growers, and L. A. Kaufman for the Ohio Cooperative Wool Growers Association. For some time the officials discussed the necessity of a western meeting for explanation of policy and procedure in order to give full opportunity for the expression of opinion on the part of any interested growers. However, the necessity for early publication of the order compelled the abandonment of this plan.

The maximum wool price regulation was No. 106 in the list officially issued since the O.P.A. began operations. It replaces the temporary or so-called "freezing" order No. 58 issued December 17, under which wools were not permitted to be sold above the prices that had been reached on December 5. The present order definitely states prices of various grades in cents per clean pound, Boston basis. It was the first one to be issued subsequent to the passage of the Price Control Act. That act set up four different bases of prices for agricultural commodities, and required that maximum ceilings to be established must not be lower than the highest prices obtained under any of the four bases. In the February issue of the Wool Grower, we said that it seemed evident that the O.P.A. would be required to adopt the plan of placing ceiling prices on the average market prices prevailing from July, 1919, to June, 1929. However, this was not done.

It was officially announced when the order was given out that the option basing values on prices of December 15, 1941, had been employed. This apparently was because the farm grease price, that is, the general average price of grease wools at farms or ranches in all parts of the country as published monthly by the Department of Agriculture, was 37.1 cents on December 15. This was the highest monthly price on record. Consequently, this date was selected and the list of clean basis prices set up. It appears to be generally agreed that there is no mathematical way of computing a series of Boston clean prices on the basis of farm grease price. However, the legal staff of the O.P.A. was convinced that this was the only defensible method. They explained to us that they had prepared a full statement as to the legal basis for the list of prices announced. Such statement has not yet been made available.

The following list of ceiling prices was released to become effective on February 28. It should be observed that these are stated as applying to wools of "average to good character."

## Maximum Ceiling Prices of Shorn Domestic Wools of Average To Good Character

Grade and Lengths	Cents per lb. Clean Basis
Fine, 70's, 3" and longer	\$1.20
Fine, 64's and finer, 2½" and longer	1.18
Fine, 64's and finer, 1½" to 2½" long	1.13
Fine, 64's and finer, Under 1½"	1.08
½ blood, 60's-64's,	
2½" and longer	1.16
1½" to 2½"	1.11
½ blood, 60's	
3" and longer	1.15
1½" to 3"	1.11
Under 1½"	1.05
½ blood, 58's	
3" and longer	1.09
2" to 3"	1.06
Under 2"	1.01
⅜ blood, 56's	
3½" and longer	1.04
2" to 3½"	1.01
Under 2"	.96

¼ blood, 50's	
4" and longer	.96
2" to 4"	.93
Under 2"	.90
¼ blood, 48's	
4" and longer	.93
2" to 4"	.91
Under 2"	.89
Low ¼ Blood, 46's	
5" and over	.92
3" to 5"	.90
Under 3"	.88
Common and Braid, 36's, 40's, and 44's	
5" and over	.93
Under 5"	.88

Along with the list of prices, the following statements regarding choice, inferior, and medium wool were also included. The statement on premiums for choice wools has too largely been overlooked by growers in appraising their clips on the basis of the above list. This provision for premiums reads as follows:

## Premiums for Choice Wools

The maximum prices for wools of choice character shall be the maximum prices set forth above plus the following amounts:

- (1) Grades 70s to 58s, inclusive ..... 3c per pound
- (2) Grades 56's to 48s, inclusive ..... 5c per pound
- (3) Grades 46s and coarser ..... 8c per pound

## Inferior Wools

On the other hand, deductions ranging from 2 to 35 cents per clean pound from ceiling prices have been made to cover inferior wools. The official language on this point is as follows:

The maximum prices for inferior wools shall be determined by deducting from the applicable maximum price for wools of average to good character, set forth above, the following amounts:

- (1) Slightly stained wools, 2c per pound.
- (2) Yellow or heavily stained wools, 5c per pound.
- (3) Seedy or burry wools not requiring carbonizing (according to established trade practice) and cotts, 3c per pound after adjustment has been made for color in accordance with (1) and (2) above.

(4) Seedy or burry wools requiring carbonizing (according to established trade practice), 10c per pound, after adjustment has been made in accordance with (1) or (2) above; Provided, That where such wools are sold in a carbonized state, the actual carbonizing charges plus an allowance for actual shrinkage may be added to the maximum price so long as such charges and shrinkage allowance are set forth in the invoice or similar document delivered to the purchaser.

- (5) Black or grey wools, 20c per pound.
- (6) Dead wools, 25c per pound.
- (7) Karakul wools, 35c per pound.
- (8) Wools tied with sisal or loose-spun jute twine, 10c per pound.
- (9) Improved Navajo wools, 5c per pound.
- (10) Unimproved Navajo wools, 10c per pound.

Another paragraph in the official order, and which is of some importance, is entitled and reads as follows:

### Wools Sold in Lots Containing Mixed Grades or Lengths

When wools are sold in original bags or in lots containing different grades or lengths, the amounts of each grade and length included shall be determined by grading a sample portion of the lot, or by an estimate made in accordance with established trade practices, and the maximum price for the quantity sold shall be based upon the applicable maximum price for each grade or length included.

It must always be remembered that the plans and purposes of the Price Control Act contain nothing regarding floor prices or guarantees to producers or others. They are wholly designed to limit and prevent price rises. Neither is there anything in the plan to prevent any seller from selling at as low a price as he may elect. This is shown by the following excerpt from the order.

1410.2. Less than Maximum Prices. Lower prices than those set forth in Appendix A (Section 1410.10) may be charged, demanded, paid or offered.

It should therefore be plain that it is the sole responsibility of every grower or other seller to obtain a price as close to the ceiling price as he can. He has no recourse of any kind for recovery of any amount at which he may sell under the ceiling price to which his wool may be entitled under the order.

Neither is there any legal requirement that he shall sell.

### The Position of the Trade

The order does not affect dealers in their buying operations. It does restrict them to selling within the limits of the scale on the Boston basis. The amount by which they may buy from growers or others, to which is added the freight to Boston, is their own concern if it is less than the price at which they sell.

In the days following the announcement of the new order on February 21, there was great activity in some parts of the West in contracting 1942 wools. It is not possible to determine, but it is apparent, that a good many of these wools were sold by growers at considerably less than the ceiling prices. Such growers were apparently prompted in their action by the fact that the price obtained was somewhat higher than that received last year. There need be no apprehension regarding the lowering of these ceiling prices during the current season. It is highly improbable that they can be altered before the time comes to consider the movement of 1943 wools.

Many of the dealing concerns apparently are willing to work under a plan of having the government take over the clip, even though that would materially limit their possible profits. Under the 1918 plan, dealers or others assembling wools for the government were allowed three per cent of the appraised value as a compensation for their services.

### Taking Over the Clip

The War Production Board is not yet favorable to having the 1942 clip purchased for the account of the government. The Board considers that under their present system of restricting the use of wool for civilians, the protection of necessary supplies for government use is assured. Later on there may be developments which will cause a reconsideration of this situation. It can, and perhaps will, happen that some growers will not be willing to sell their clips at prices offered by the dealers, and perhaps be unwilling also to consign them. The same growers would readily and cheerfully deliver their wools for the account of the government if assured of the price set by

the Office of Price Administration. It is yet too early to forecast how far this situation may develop, but it can be a factor later on in considering the advisability of taking over the clip in a way to insure to the growers the full price now set by the government through the O.P.A.

### Growers' Obligations

Under the text of the order, all sellers of wool are required to submit monthly affidavits regarding the level at which they have made sales during the previous month. This will of course be enforced in respect to dealers, but it seems unreasonable to expect that growers will be expected to file such affidavits. There are two good reasons why this should not, and can not, be done:

1. The very great improbability of a grower's sale price ever exceeding the limit set in the O.P.A. scale; and

2. The fact that the grower is unable to determine the real selling prices on the Boston clean basis for the clip which he has to sell, and which usually is mixed in character as to grades, quality, and shrinkage.

### Enforcing the Order

It is the plan of the O.P.A. to place representatives at Boston to check compliance of sellers with the prices set in the order. Under the law, the O.P.A. has access to the records of all wool houses. Where delivery is made on the basis of an agreed grease price, exact checking as to observance of ceiling prices will be most difficult. To make such a check would require a close determination of the amount of various grades contained in a sale, and as to the clean content and quality of each of them. It would also require a uniform and sharp line between good and choice wools. Nevertheless, the order, even though not actually observed to the extent of 100 per cent, will accomplish its essential objective, which is the prevention of material increase in prices. Violations of the order may be revealed by complaint of purchasers who feel that they have been overcharged. We anticipate that such complaints will be quite rare, and especially in connection with transactions in the West.

## Sample Appraisal of a Mixed Clip of Wool Under Ceiling Prices

THE maximum price ceiling on an average to good character clip of crossbred wool with the following grade percentages: 5 per cent fine, 5 per cent half-blood, 50 per cent three-eighths, 35 per cent quarter-blood and 5 per cent low quarter, with average shrinkages of 65, 60, 56, 52, and 47 per cent respectively, would be about 46.4 cents per grease pound, Boston.

The maximum price to the grower in this example would be the 46.4 cents, Boston grease ceiling price, less the freight rate to Boston and such expenses and profits as the dealer or association should be entitled to.

Under this same example if the character of all the grades was choice the Boston grease price would be about 48.4 cents per pound.

The domestic wool quotations for graded territory wool are carried each month in this magazine. In the same manner the maximum price ceilings for grease wool at Boston, used in the above example, are given in the following table for both average to good and choice wools with an average shrinkage value for each grade. For example, fine 64's have an average shrinkage of 65 per cent; heavy shrinkage is considered about 68 per cent, but many fine wools such as Texas and Montana wools may shrink considerably less. This same thing holds true in all of the other grades with some wools having a lighter or a heavier shrinkage. The shrinkage percentages listed in the table are considered average.

Having been given the maximum price ceilings of wool on a clean basis and using average shrinkages, the maximum grease price, Boston, is determined for each grade and class to the nearest cent as shown. It must be understood, for example, if a certain grade of wool has a shrinkage of 65 per cent the yield of clean wool is 35 per cent, or 65 subtracted from 100 per cent. By multiplying the yield by the clean base price it is possible to determine the equivalent Boston price in the grease.

It may be well to discuss further how

the 46.4 cents per pound grease price, Boston basis, would be arrived at from the table below for a clip of wool having the grades and shrinkages as shown

### Maximum Price Ceilings Effective February 28, 1942

(GRADED TERRITORY WOOL, FIGURED TO GREASE BASIS)

Grades for Mixed Wools	Maximum Ceiling Prices Clean Basis Boston		Average Shrinkage	Equivalent Boston Price in Grease	
	Average to Good	Choice		Average to Good	Choice
Fine 64's and finer—2½" and longer.....	\$1.18	\$1.21	65%	\$.41	\$.42
½ Blood, 60's—3" and longer.....	1.15	1.18	60%	.46	.47
¾ Blood, 56's—3½" and longer.....	1.04	1.09	55%	.47	.49
¼ Blood, 50's—4" and longer.....	.96	1.01	52%	.46	.48
Low ¼ Blood, 46's—5" and longer.....	.92	1.00	47%	.49	.53

and of average to good character. If 5 per cent was of fine, staple wool and had a shrinkage of 65 per cent, its grease value at Boston would be 41 cents; for choice wool 42 cents. Similarly if 5 per cent of the clip was half-blood wool of staple length with a shrinkage of 60 per cent, its ceiling price would be 46 cents; for choice wool 47 cents. Following this procedure through, if 50 per cent was three-eighths wool of good length with a shrinkage of 55 per cent, its grease price per pound, Boston basis, would be 47 cents for average to good character wool; for choice, 49 cents. If 35 per cent was quarter-blood wool of good length, shrinkage 52 per cent, its value would be 46 cents; for choice 48 cents per grease pound, Boston. If the remaining 5 per cent was of low quarter-blood wool with a shrinkage of 47 per cent, its ceiling value would be 49 cents; for choice wool 53 cents per grease pound, Boston basis.

With 5 per cent of a clip having a value of 41 cents per grease pound, Boston, and percentages of other grades as shown above, the average of the entire clip would be 46.4 cents for wool of average to good character and 48.4 cents for wool of choice character.

Prices for all of the different grades and lengths as shown in the official order may be found on page 6.

The computations in the above example are purely illustrative of a method to follow in evaluating a clip. Wools that are defective are subject to discount. The shrinkages shown in the example are average and for any one particular clip they might be higher or lower according to location, season, and other factors affecting the shrinkage.

Again, these calculations illustrate a method by which it is possible to appraise a clip according to ceiling prices when a grower has a reasonable knowledge of the amount and shrinkage of each grade in his clip.

J. M. Jones

### Pacific Wool Growers Open San Francisco Branch

PACIFIC Wool Growers, whose main warehouse and offices are in Portland, announce the opening of their San Francisco branch in the buildings of the Haslett Warehouse Company at 50 Bay Street.

The organization has been operating a branch at the Port of Stockton, but the need of the U. S. Army for all warehouse facilities of the Port made removal of the Pacific's plant necessary. After surveying all available locations it was decided to return to San Francisco where the Association operated for 15 years before going to Stockton.

"Conditions for wool storage in the cool, moist air of the San Francisco Bay district are ideal," said R. A. Ward, manager of the Pacific, upon his return recently from San Francisco where he completed arrangements for opening the new plant. It will serve the association's members in Nevada and California.



# The New Wool Conservation Order

THE amended Wool Conservation Order, M-73, to cover the period April 5 to July 4, was issued on February 25 by J. S. Knowlson, director of Industrial Operations in the War Production Board. The substance of the order is printed below as prepared by the W.P.B.

The War Production Board today further restricted civilian use of military-quality new wool for the second quarter of 1942 and at the same time made available for civilian use larger quantities of mohair and lower quality wool not suitable for military fabrics.

Today's action is in the form of an amendment extension of the wool conservation order (M-73). The original order covered the first 13 weeks of 1942. The extension covers the second 13 weeks, from April 5 to July 4.

The amendment changes the restrictions on the use of new wool for the second quarter compared with the first quarter as follows:

1. No restrictions are placed on the amount of new wool used for defense orders in the second quarter. The first quarter order permitted a manufacturer to use up to 80 per cent new wool for both defense and civilian orders; unrestricted use for defense orders was permitted only if such manufacturer engaged in no civilian business.
2. On the worsted system the amount of wool permitted for civilian orders is reduced from 50 per cent to 20 per cent of each manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage. (Based on 1941.)
3. On the woolen, cotton and felt systems the amount of new wool permitted for civilian orders is reduced from 40 per cent to 10 per cent of each manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage.
4. For floor coverings, no apparel wool is permitted and the amount of carpet wool is reduced from 50 per cent to 25 per cent of each manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage.

A manufacturer's basic quarterly poundage remains unchanged. It amounts to one half the pounds of new wool he used during the first half of 1941. Thus, a manufacturer who used 10,000 pounds of new wool during the first two quarters of last year will have a basic quarterly poundage of 5,000 pounds. He will be permitted to use 20 per cent of 5,000 pounds, (1,000 pounds) on the worsted system, or 10 per cent of 5,000 pounds (500 pounds) on the woolen system during the second quarter of this year for civilian orders.

Actually, such a manufacturer will be

able to use more wool than that for civilian orders, if he takes advantage of another change in the order. To increase the supply of civilian goods and to somewhat offset the reductions of new wool available for civilian purposes, the amended order permits manufacturers to use in place of the wools suitable for military purposes a larger amount of grown mohair (hair from the angora goat) and wool of grades 44 and lower which are not suitable for military fabrics.

This is done by permitting a manufacturer to use additional amounts of mohair and lower grades of wool. For each pound of mohair or low grade wool used on the worsted system, a manufacturer may use an additional two pounds of mohair or low grade wool. For each pound of mohair or low grade wool used on the woolen system, a manufacturer may use an additional five pounds of the same material. Under the order for the present quarter, no distinction is made in a manufacturer's quota between the wools suitable for military fabrics and other wools and mohair.

R. R. Guthrie, Chief of the Textile, Clothing and Leather Goods Branch, said the Far Eastern war situation affects our Australian wool supply and makes it essential to restrict wool for civilian fabrics to a minimum.

It is desirable, he said, to increase the stockpile of war fabrics to make possible quick deliveries of uniforms and to utilize a labor supply in the industry that is now plentiful but which may not remain so.

Mr. Guthrie estimated that the second quarter allocation for civilian use will amount to approximately 22 million pounds of high grade wool with some additional poundage set up as reserve to meet hardship cases, and it is estimated that an equal amount of mohair and low grade wool will be used by manufacturers in taking advantage of the more liberal allowances provided for such wools in the new order. The entire amount for civilian use will total approximately 60 million pounds, which is about the same quantity as is being used this quarter for civilian supply.

In connection with the issuance of the new wool order, Mr. Guthrie said that mandatory blending of substitute fibers with new wool for civilian use will be provided for in a separate amendment to be issued later, but not to become effective before September 15, 1942.

"Mandatory blending is not being ordered now because sufficient technical data and experience in manipulation is not yet available," Mr. Guthrie said.

"It is felt that any mandatory provisions

which might be included at this time would hamper the efforts of individual mills to create the most satisfactory fabrics for varying purposes and with varying types of equipment.

"A separate order will subsequently be issued, to apply to fabrics delivered by the mills after September 15, based upon a careful evaluation of the experience of all the mills in the industry up to that time and the programs which will be developed out of that experience.

"To this end all the mills will be requested to submit programs for the manipulation of wool in the third quarter as soon as possible and not later than April 30 to the Wool Section, War Production Board. Detailed instructions for submitting these programs will be issued shortly."

In comparison with the allowance for civilian uses during the first quarter of 1942, there has been a considerable reduction. A greater use of adult mohair is now permitted, but no ceiling prices have been set by the O.P.A. for mohair.

The most disturbing part of the new order is a statement that a separate amendment will be issued later, not to become effective before September 15, in which it will be made mandatory, in connection with wools used for civilian purposes, to use amounts of substitute fibers to be specified, probably reprocessed wool, cotton, or rayon. Even under war conditions of extreme gravity, this seems to be a very drastic step. Manufacturers who prefer to use no substitutes are alarmed. They desire to utilize any allowances of wool for civilian purposes in their own way, to make less and better cloth, and to maintain their reputation and outlets for high quality fabrics even though the production is in smaller amounts.

Considerable justification for this position on the part of these men is found in the fact that imports of all-new wool fabrics of high quality still are arriving in the United States from England.

A western manufacturer recently said to me, "If we are compelled to turn out only goods containing substitutes, while the British continue to send in top quality goods made of all-new wool, it will take 50 years after the war to re-

establish the idea that American mills can produce cloth of superior quality."

Another forcible argument in this connection is along this line: The production of goods containing large amounts of substitutes will mean the turning out of more cloth of less serviceability, and a greater sum total of mill activity, in order to supply civilian requirements. This will operate against the volume of machinery that might need to be employed on government contracts.

The question of the mandatory order for the use of substitutes seems to be at least highly debatable. Of course, nothing can be allowed to hinder the supreme war effort, but if England in her extremities is facilitating the production and export of high-quality new wool goods, may it not be that the United States is committing an error in prohibiting any manufacture of such materials?

It is strongly to be hoped that the Division of Industrial Operations will not issue the mandatory order which it has announced its intention to do.

There is some encouragement in the expectation that even if only mixed goods are allowed to be produced, the consumer buyers will be permitted to know what they are purchasing. While bills have been introduced to provide for the suspension of the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1940, none of them have been advanced. It is known that some of the highest officials in the W.P. B. maintain the attitude that proper labeling of fabrics to show their fiber content should be continued under any and all conditions.

The new order also removes any limitation upon the amount of wool which a mill may utilize in the filling of government contracts.

### Blankets

Another provision in the new order is to the effect that in the production of blankets for non-defense use, mills will be limited to 80 per cent of wool, wool wastes, noils, or reused and reprocessed wool in the aggregate. It is expected that the War Department will continue its standard of all new wool in its cloth fabrics, and probably in connection with blankets also.

## Wool Bags Returned

AS A result of a W.P.B. order instructing all mills using wool to return used burlap bags to wool growers, more than half a million such bags have been sent back to growers in the past month. The number of bags returned for reuse total about one third of the number critically needed for handling the new domestic wool clip.

(The Wool Grower cannot vouch for the accuracy of the above statement. It appeared in the War Letter for Agriculture of February 27, published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Editor.)

## Dont' Sell Your Wool Bags

NOW is the time to insure the marketing of your 1943 wool clip. Have it strictly understood in writing that the wool bags used in marketing your 1942 wools will be returned to you. Indications now are that it may be impossible to secure burlap next season for the marketing of wool.

The wool bag situation is extremely serious this year and only by the constant effort of your associations, both state and national, has this problem been alleviated.

Relief this year has come as a result of Amendment No. 3 to the Burlap and Burlap Products Conservation Order M-47, which releases agricultural bags for the purpose of sacking and shipping wool to any person who requires these bags for actual use within the next thirty days after receipt thereof. No bags can be delivered to any grower "unless and until such bag manufacturer shall have received from such person a certificate, manually signed by such person, or by an individual authorized to sign for such person." This certificate must show that the bags received are needed for sacking and shipping wool, that the bags will be used within the next thirty days after the date of delivery, that the number of bags received, including new and second-hand bags now held, will not be in excess of the amount required by him for use in the thirty-day period, and that all reasonable efforts have been made to obtain and use some other

form of packaging but have not been successful.

In the amended order it is stated:

No purchaser shall resell or deliver any unused bags so purchased to any other person, until and unless such purchaser shall have first received from such other person a certificate in the above form.

Every bag manufacturer must sell at regularly established prices and terms of sale and deliver any supply of agricultural bags held by him at any time after the effective date of this amendment, whether theretofore or thereafter manufactured, for sacking and shipping wool, to persons filing such certificates, and deliveries must be made to such persons in the order of the commencement of the thirty-day periods specified in their said certificates.

This amendment, which became effective February 16, relieves the tense strain among wool growers for the 1942 clip, but it is imperative that these bags be returned to protect you another year. There will be many who will tell you that these wool bags have no value after being used in delivering your 1942 clip but you should insist that they be returned.

Conservation Order M-47, 1014.1 (r), on the Conservation of Bags for Reuse, provides:

No person shall, to the extent practicable, slash or otherwise mutilate burlap bags as a means of opening the same. To the extent practicable, all persons filling agricultural bags shall close them in a manner which will permit speedy and intact opening of such bags. To the extent practicable, bag users shall promptly empty and return such bags or sell such bags for reuse through existing channels.

Some groups and organizations are loaning the bags to the grower with the stipulation that the bags be returned direct to the lender when emptied.

The best insurance that you will be able to market your 1943 wool clip properly is to demand the return of the 1942 wool bags.

### COMING EVENTS

California Ram Sale, Sacramento County Fair Grounds, Galt, California . . . May 18-19

Intermountain Junior Livestock Show, North Salt Lake, Utah . . . June 4-6

American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City . . . October 24-31

March, 1942

## Baling Wool to Save Burlap

A TEST of putting up wool in cotton baling machinery was recently reported by James M. Coon and C. G. Randell of the Cooperative Research and Service Division of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C.

As the summary of the test shows, under baling, the burlap requirement was 40 to 50 per cent below the amount that would be required under bagging in the ordinary way.

It is not probable that baling of wool with cotton baling equipment will become a general practice this year, but for the future the possibilities of the plan may need to be utilized in some sections.

Forty-six bales were made, most of them running from 500 to 600 pounds in weight.

Excerpts from the official summary are printed below. The Wool Grower prints this as a possible clue to some new practice which, through force of circumstance, may need to be given consideration later on.

### Baling Wool

(1) The ordinary cotton gin presses were adequate for baling wool. A recent survey shows that there are more than 1,400 idle cotton gins in the South, and the engineers at the United States Ginning Laboratory at Stoneville, Mississippi, estimate that 80 per cent of these gins have presses suitable for the baling of wool. In some instances, pumps and motors have been removed and would have to be replaced. Some of these presses are all wood construction; others are steel and wood, and include the screw as well as the hydraulic ram type; a few other miscellaneous types of presses are also available. It is reported that several new presses are available at various manufacturing plants. The cost of new presses installed would probably be approximately \$2,500. If second-hand presses should be purchased and shipped to wool concentration points, they could be installed at a cost considerably less.

(2) Bales weighing between 500 and 600 pounds, dimensions 22x32x56 inches, with a 19-pound per cubic foot density were the most satisfactory.

(3) The most suitable bale covering was burlap. It was found that a saving of package material of approximately 40 to 50 per cent could be made in baling instead of bagging wool. Very lightweight covering can be used. The most satisfactory bale

pattern was a lightweight burlap covering with a strip of heavy wrapping paper on each of the sides.

The cotton bale patterns made of soft mesh material were definitely undesirable as the fibers commingle with the wool. All-paper covered bales are unsatisfactory.

(4) No. 15-gauge baling wire adequately served as ties for bales of from 500 to 600 pounds with densities of from 19 to 20 pounds. These ties can be obtained more readily than those of heavier wire or the heavy steel bands.

(5) A crew of five experienced men could load the press and tie out ten bales an hour. Three men could load the empty box while two are tying out a bale and placing the cover for the next bale. It should be understood that, in addition to the baling crew, graders, truckers, and other workmen would be necessary to weigh, stencil, and keep a record of the ownership of each bale.

### Condition of Baled Wool

(1) The wool was not damaged when compressed in bales of densities between 19 and 24 pounds per cubic foot.

(2) Wool pressed into bales does not show to the best advantage. Wool packed to a density of 7 to 12 pounds in bags has a more fluffy appearance upon opening and is more attractive to buyers. When wools are consigned, sample lots to be shown to buyers might be shipped in bags with the understanding that the bulk shipment would be baled and be consigned direct to the mills.

(3) All wool before being baled should be tagged and graded.

### Transportation

Growers can effect savings of many thousands of dollars in freight charges by shipping baled wool rather than sacked wool. The freight rate, for example, on sacked wool from Rawlins, Wyoming, to Boston, Massachusetts, is \$2.06 per hundred pounds, while the rate on baled wool between the same points is \$1.84. The minimum weight per 40-foot car of baled wool is 35,840 pounds; the minimum weight for sacked wool per 40-foot car is 26,880 pounds. On this basis the shipper is able to load 8,960 pounds more wool in bales than in sacks. In other words, he is paying \$659.45 for 35,840 pounds at the baled rate of \$1.84 per hundredweight, while at the sacked rate of \$2.06 he would pay \$738.30. On the basis of 35,840 pounds in a car, the shipper of baled wool is able to effect a saving of \$78.85 in freight charges. It must be kept in mind that the shipper can always protect his minimum weight by shipping wool in bales, and that nearly double the weight of baled wool can be loaded in a car as compared with sacked wool.

## Wool for War

AT THE Salt Lake convention in January General Corbin said:

If we increase the Army by two million more men in 1942, there will be a need for not less than 200 million more pounds of scoured wool (about equal to domestic production of shorn and pulled wool figured to a basis of greasy shorn wool). \* \* \* If in 1943 another two million are inducted, the total scoured wool requirement (for maintenance and new equipment) would then amount to not less than 350 million pounds for that year.

This would mean that in 1943, for war purposes alone, there would be need for 150 million pounds of scoured wool over domestic production to come from imports or from reserves.

While not officially announced, it is now believed to be the plan to induct two million new men into service this year. And this would mean the use for military purposes of a weight of wool equivalent to the domestic clip. As nearly as can now be estimated the amount of new wool permitted to go into civilian uses in 1942 will be around 100 million pounds, or one sixth of the amount so used in 1941.

Statistics on imports are not being released as formerly. It is, however, probable that 1942 imports will be greater than the civilian consumption of new wool to be permitted.

Another unknown factor is the amount of wool that may be needed for others of the united nations under the lend-lease program.

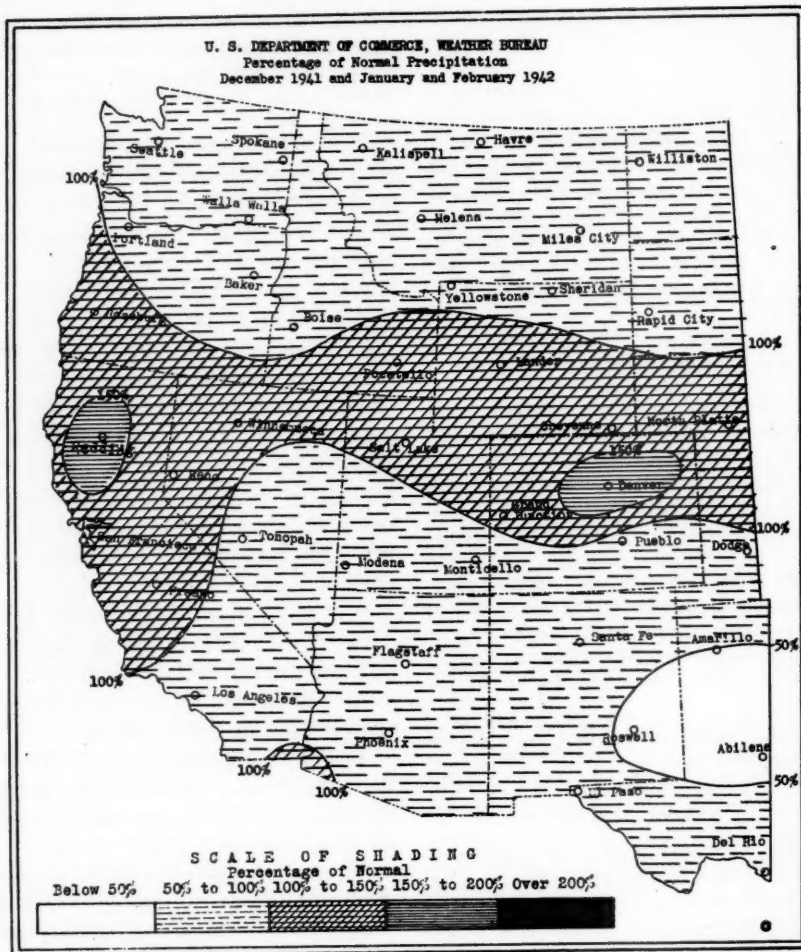
In view of the very large amounts almost certain to be called for in 1943, it may be justifiable to hold over some wools available this year to go along with the growing reserve held by the government as a guarantee of a sufficient supply for next year's supreme performance.

All of which supports the proposal of the National Wool Growers Association that all stocks should be carried as the property of the United States Government.

BUY DEFENSE  
SAVINGS BONDS  
AND STAMPS



# Winter Moisture



THE winter, just past, brought less snow than usual to about 75 per cent of the western range country, with only minor excesses over the rest of the West, comprising chiefly a belt from the Oregon-California coast extending eastward across the Nevada-Utah-Idaho-Wyoming-Colorado boundaries, and thence into the Great Plains states. Most of western Texas had less than 50 per cent of the normal winter's moisture. The deficiency in moisture has persisted for six months in north-

eastern Washington, northern Oregon, and southwestern Idaho, while the excesses that occurred in the autumn quarter were wiped out by the winter deficiency in southern and western Washington. Moisture supplies have been somewhat above normal for the past six months, that is, during both quarters, autumn and winter, in most of Nevada, northern Utah, all but northeastern Wyoming, and all but southeastern Colorado.

Precipitation on Western Livestock Ranges, With Departures From Normal, During December, 1941, and January and February, 1942, Inclusive

	Normal 3-Months' Precipitation	Actual 3-Months' Precipitation	Excess (+), or Deficiency (-) 3 Months	Excess (+), or Deficiency (-) 6 Months
<b>Washington</b>				
Seattle .....	14.43	12.18	-2.25	-0.91
Spokane .....	6.12	5.31	-0.81	-1.14
Walla Walla .....	5.78	4.76	-1.02	-0.37
<b>Oregon</b>				
Portland .....	18.68	18.75	+0.07	-0.49
Baker .....	4.32	3.85	-0.47	-0.74
Roseburg .....	15.14	15.39	+0.25	+2.02
<b>California</b>				
Redding .....	19.08	23.99	+9.91	+8.43
San Francisco .....	12.34	16.32	+3.98	+2.98
Fresno .....	4.61	6.17	+1.56	+1.17
Los Angeles .....	8.80	5.86	-2.94	-3.05
<b>Nevada</b>				
Winnemucca .....	3.02	3.50	+0.48	+1.42
Reno .....	3.70	4.78	+1.08	+1.35
<b>Arizona</b>				
Phoenix .....	2.57	1.95	-0.62	+1.01
Flagstaff .....	7.18	4.11	-3.07	+2.87
Yuma .....	1.39	1.45	+0.06	-0.03
<b>New Mexico</b>				
Albuquerque .....	1.18	0.90	-0.28	+2.42
Roswell .....	1.76	0.70	-1.06	+5.98
<b>Texas</b>				
Amarillo .....	2.02	1.02	-1.00	+6.39
Abilene .....	3.31	1.59	-1.72	+5.41
Del Rio .....	1.79	1.30	-0.49	+5.80
El Paso .....	1.39	1.21	-0.18	+3.49
<b>Montana</b>				
Billings .....	2.59	2.28	-0.31	+4.14
Helena .....	2.30	1.86	-0.44	+0.23
Kalispell .....	4.13	3.32	-0.81	+0.04
Havre .....	1.84	1.20	-0.64	+1.48
Williston, N. D. ....	1.53	1.14	-0.39	+1.49
<b>Idaho</b>				
Boise .....	4.74	4.19	-0.55	-1.62
Pocatello .....	3.87	5.28	+1.41	+2.31
<b>Utah</b>				
Salt Lake City .....	4.25	4.63	+0.38	+2.13
Modena .....	2.63	2.35	-0.28	+1.97
<b>Wyoming</b>				
Sheridan .....	2.19	1.53	-0.66	+0.19
Lander .....	1.87	2.52	+0.65	+2.92
Cheyenne .....	1.61	2.07	+0.46	+1.02
Rapid City, S. D. ....	1.37	0.91	-0.46	+0.14
No. Platte, Neb. ....	1.45	1.99	+0.54	+2.26
<b>Colorado</b>				
Denver .....	1.66	3.12	+1.46	+3.65
Pueblo .....	1.28	1.03	-0.25	+2.49
Grand Junction .....	1.81	1.85	+0.04	+0.09
Dodge City, Kas. ....	1.75	1.71	-0.04	+2.37

# Around the Range Country

## WESTERN TEXAS

Seasonable weather prevailed, being comparatively mild much of the month, only the last two weeks over part of the area being appreciably colder than normal. Precipitation has continued comparatively light, only a few scattered showers having been heavy enough to benefit pasturage temporarily and locally. Livestock continue in satisfactory condition as a general rule.

### Del Rio, Val Verde County

There has been quite a quantity of wool contracted in Texas, our people here not having sold any wool at all (March 6).

We are having a pretty tough spring in Texas so far. In case there is no rain soon, the lamb crop will be extremely short. As a matter of fact a great many people in this part of the country have already lost lots of their lambs.

C. B. Wardlaw

## ARIZONA

Seasonal temperatures prevailed with a tendency to above normal values most of the month, and subnormal values later in the month. Precipitation was light, and largely rain in the lower sections, being somewhat heavier toward the close. Crop growth has been retarded by prolonged cold spell later in the month. Livestock continue in good shape, but the southern ranges need rain. Shearing is nearly completed.

## NEW MEXICO

The first half of the week was sunny and mild as a rule, the last half being cloudy and much colder, with occasional light, scattered precipitation of little consequence. Snow fell in the higher areas. Cattle continue in good shape in spite of the turn to less favorable weather. Some of the country will need rain before the best forage growth can be expected.

### Hope, Eddy County

We have had the best winter and feed conditions in years with very few winter losses so far. A few ranchers are

The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states in Around the Range Country are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau and based upon reports and publications for the month of February.

The Wool Grower welcomes and desires communications from interested readers in any part of the country for this department of the Wool Grower and also invites comment and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and of importance and significance to wool growers.

feeding cottonseed cake, which costs \$45 a ton delivered at ranch. Baled hay sells from \$10 to \$12 a ton.

The number of stock on the range is about the same, for according to the Taylor Grazing Act, which has been the ranch saver in this part of the country, we cannot materially increase our herds.

Some wool that was contracted from 30 to 35 cents last year has been contracted this year at 35 to 37 cents.

Although expenses are somewhat higher, there has been no shortage of ranch labor so far.

Our coyote losses have been eliminated by individual trapping.

Generally conditions are very good and all livestock are in fine shape.

J. P. Casabonne

### Roswell, Chaves County

We have had a very mild winter, with two or three light snows, and stock are doing fine (March 2). Nearly every one feeds hay or cake to some of their stock. Different kinds of pellets and cubes with varying protein content are used here and cost between \$29.50 and \$46 a ton. All the alfalfa hay is baled and sells from \$10 to \$15 a ton. Our loss has been very light this winter.

A few hundred thousand pounds of wool has been contracted in this section at prices ranging from 37 to 40 cents.

The cost of everything we use has gone up, feed being the most costly, although bundle feed was cheap enough.

This area is all in pastures and the sheep run loose the same as cows.

Everyone tries to kill every coyote that gets in his pasture, by trapping, poison or with drives. In a drive all the neighbors come, using their cars or horses. We also have wonderful help from the Wildlife Service.

C. A. Buchanan

### Crownpoint, McKinley County

Weather and feed conditions are very good on the winter ranges at this time (February 26), and we have had not more than a one per cent loss so far. None of our ewes are being fed hay or grain, but alfalfa hay is now priced at \$12 a ton. There has not been any increase in the number of stock ewes in this section the past year.

No wool has been contracted yet.

Running expenses are slightly higher than they were a year ago.

Coyotes are not so numerous due to trapping and poisoning.

R. G. Smith

## COLORADO

Mild but stormy weather prevailed much of the month, followed by much colder weather later in the month with continued falls of snow, some of it fairly heavy. Severely low temperatures occurred during the cold snap, and snows were deep and troublesome, hampering team work and livestock activities, and causing notable shrinkages in exposed cattle and sheep. Animals are still in fairly good shape, however, and there is still enough feed.

### Yampa, Routt County

We do not winter range our sheep, but feed all of them. There has been plenty of feed, however, and the sheep are in good condition (February 26). Timothy and clover hay can be purchased at \$5 a ton in the stack; we do not feed much grain. Our losses so far have been very light.

Sheep numbers have increased slightly here, but I do not think there is room for much expansion.

No contracts for the purchase of

1942 wools have been made here.

It is costing us about 25 per cent more to operate this year than last; also our coyote losses remain high. Coyotes are getting thicker all the time.

Wes Fleming

### Sapinero, Gunnison County

Good conditions prevail on our winter ranges (February 13) and none of our sheep are being fed hay, and only about 10 per cent of them are getting some grain. Corn is costing us \$32 a ton and alfalfa hay is priced at \$10 in the stack.

The number of ewes bred last fall is about the same as that for the preceding year.

Operating costs are up about 20 per cent over last year's. It is very hard to get good herders.

Emmett Elizondo

### Aspen, Pitkin County

The winter ranges are in good condition for this time of year (March 2). About a third of the ewes are being fed grain, which is about the way we fed last year. Alfalfa hay can be purchased at around \$8 in the stack. There has been no increase in the number of sheep here and in my opinion there isn't room for much increase.

I do not know how much wool has been contracted yet, but the prices for that now taken range between 40 and 42 cents.

Our expenses are about a third higher than they were last year.

Coyotes are still the source of considerable loss to us.

Charles H. Gavin

### Kremmling, Grand County

Range conditions are good (March 3) and we are feeding on about the same scale as last year: all of the ewes getting grain and about 35 per cent of them hay. The price of corn, which is the concentrate we use, is \$33.50 a ton and that of alfalfa hay in the stack is \$7 a ton. The number of ewes is about the same as last year.

Wool has been contracted here at 35 to 38 cents a pound, but I haven't any idea as to the amount taken so far.

Operating costs are about 20 per cent higher and coyote losses are increasing.

J. H. Flora

## UTAH

The first week or ten days was abnormally mild, but the rest of the month was exceptionally cold and severe. Moderate to heavy snow fell pretty generally to add to the inclemency, causing suffering and shrinkages generally in livestock, and necessitated heavy feeding. The range feed, has, however, been accessible and in sufficient amount. Hay has also been plentiful in most sections. Livestock as a result have held up in fairly good condition.

### Monroe, Sevier County

Winter weather has not been too cold and there has been plenty of moisture to bring good early spring feed. Winter feed has been fair, and no supplemental feeding is being done (February 9). Last year the ewes were fed cottonseed cake for 2½ months. Alfalfa hay can be purchased now at \$12 a ton in the stack.

Our breeding bands are about the same size as last year's, but we kept a few more ewe lambs over last fall than we did in the preceding season.

Operating costs, both in labor and supplies, are considerably higher than they were a year ago.

Coyotes are still causing us a lot of trouble.

Evan Jensen

## NEVADA

Light to moderate snows occurred frequently, providing ample moisture for range stuff. Temperatures were

### PERCENTAGES OF NORMAL PRECIPITATION BY STATES FOR FEBRUARY, 1942 (Preliminary)

	%
Arizona .....	81
California .....	92
Colorado .....	115
Idaho .....	99
Montana .....	96
Nevada .....	83
New Mexico .....	77
Oregon .....	101
South Dakota .....	93
Texas .....	70
Utah .....	100
Washington .....	76
Wyoming .....	79

Note—All of the percentage figures are based on average precipitation for the entire state as reported by all the Weather Bureau stations, which total around 100 in each state. It is possible, therefore, that a particular area in any state may have had more or less moisture than indicated in the above percentage figure.

moderately high the first ten days, but the rest of the month was abnormally cold, causing some inconvenience and also some suffering among livestock. Livestock are, as a result, in only fair condition, though largely on open range feed. Lambing is beginning in places.

### Minden, Douglas County

Winter ranges are very wet (February 26). All of our ewes are being fed hay, which is costing \$11 and \$12 a ton in the stack. There does not seem to have been any noticeable increase in the number of ewes run here. Winter losses were somewhat heavier than usual.

Running expenses are up 15 per cent, and losses from coyote depredations are about the same.

H. F. Dangberg L. & L. S. Co.

## CALIFORNIA

Temperature conditions have been near or somewhat higher than normal, being favorable all the time. Rains in the lower areas have been scattered, and mostly light in the southern portion, while some northern valleys had a few good rains. Range livestock have been favored with nice weather and plenty of feed, and are in good to excellent condition.

### Bishop, Inyo County

Weather conditions are poor (February 15). It is cold and dry and so feed conditions are poor. We are feeding all of our ewes both hay and grain while last year at this time only about 75 per cent of the ewes were getting hay. We are paying \$17 a ton for baled alfalfa hay, and are also using silage and corn.

We bred about the same number of ewes as in the preceding year and also retained about the usual number of ewe lambs for breeding.

Coyote losses are still high and our operating costs have risen about a third in the last year.

Henry Evans, Jr.

### Loleta, Humboldt County

We had a rather mild but wet winter; had so much rain, in fact, that it made lambing difficult. The fall season was good, however, and winter losses have been lighter than usual. Not much feeding is done here, possibly 15 per

(Continued on page 34)



# Dr. McClure's Convention Address

I THINK it is imposing on you folks to call on me again today. I took up so much of your time the other day on this wool question that I am somewhat ashamed of myself.

I came down here for the purpose of speaking to you upon the subject of world trade as the cause of war. Investigations which I have made and other men more capable than I, have long since determined that these great conflicts, dating back long before the birth of Christ, indeed, back to the building of the pyramids; that these great conflicts which have left the deserts of Asia strewn with the bleaching bones of caravans which traveled back in the days of Abraham, which have covered the bottom of the ocean with the rotting hulls of the ships of all nations—those wars, in spite of anything that our Department of State may say to us, practically all of them, have been brought about by the effort of one nation to invade and conquer the trade of another nation.

We fought the first world war, we thought, in the interest of saving democracy, but when that war was over our martyred president, Woodrow Wilson, in one of his great speeches down at St. Louis, said that the world war was undeniably a trade war. And this war in which we are now engaged, even on our part, is a trade war. Japan is seeking by aggressive methods to secure the trade of China and Asia and portions of Russia, and we, owning or claiming to own some 20 per cent of that trade, have said to her that she cannot have it. Central Europe is now fighting, as it fought in 1914, with its main incentive to get out into the world and get a larger share in the trade of the world.

It is my humble opinion that regardless of the outcome of this conflict, there will never for long be peace upon this earth until this question of world trade ceases to be a dominant factor in the statesmanship of the world. And

how silly that is, that the trade and the peace of the whole world should be disturbed over such an insignificant transaction as the trade of the world.

World trade in the past thirty-five years has never averaged twenty billion dollars. The highest year the world ever knew, the trade of all countries was but thirty-four billion dollars. The world trade of the United States is such an insignificant quota of our total trade that if it should vanish in the night it would be of less consequence to this nation than if you should cease to raise wool. Five per cent of your industry is dependent upon world trade and in order to protect that insignificant 5 per cent the whole world is now engaged in an unprecedented conflict which, even though we win the war, it seems to me that we will lose our government. But enough of that.

## The National Association and Its Leaders

I told Mr. Marshall I didn't have any speech to make. He said, "You are kind of a privileged character around here, you ought to say something." I am the one to say something to you about your association. Not much has been said about it here; not much is said about the National Wool Growers Association at any time. Fortunately the men that you place at the head of this great institution of yours, which has now lived longer than any other livestock association in the entire world, are not given to bragging about their accomplishments but the happy position of your industry in this war, your ability to bring to this convention speakers that but few conventions in the United States could attract, the wonderful program you have presented here in this city of Salt Lake, just did not happen. General Corbin came here, the men from the Office of Price Administration came here, your man from South America came here, the man

from the Tariff Commission came here, because of the prestige which your organization has, because of the honorable position that it has achieved among the institutions of the country.

And I want to say to you that you have a fine institution. Your president is one of the fine presidents of this organization, and he has just one failing so far as I am concerned: he has conducted your affairs here for two years and may I say to you—I don't suppose I ought to tell you, he will deny it—he has not charged you a dollar of expense for the thousands of dollars he has spent and for the time that he has given in serving your interests here in this western country and in the city of Washington. I am told by Mr. Marshall that they have never called upon him to go forth and render a service for you but what he was willing and anxious to lay down his own business and go anywhere to promote your welfare.

And I want to say something about Secretary Marshall. I was once a secretary too, it was a long time ago, I hardly recognize the National Wool Growers Association now. It has grown in character and function so great that it hardly resembles the little organization of which I was once the secretary. I want to say for Mr. Marshall that I have from time to time known the secretaries of most of the other great organizations and I can assure you that you have got one of the cleanest and ablest secretaries of any association in the United States.

There are other men who ought to be mentioned, men who are doing this work of yours, particularly your Honorary President, Roscoe Rich. They are building up under this wool promotion scheme an organization of which you will be very proud. It will be the organization which will defend this fiber which you grow against the army of substitutes that are now rising

to take its place. Your Wool Promotion Committee, headed by Roscoe Rich, believes there is no substitute for wool. They believe wool is a living fiber coming from the living sheep, and when it goes back to cover the human body it performs a living function, which no substitute fiber ever can fulfill.

I must also compliment Byron Wilson. While he is not an officer of the National, he has spent lots of time in Washington, and I can assure you that many of these good things that have happened, didn't just happen, they came about by reason of his work and Mr. Marshall's work, and the work of these other men. Mr. Wilson is in Washington probably more than any of the rest of us and I am sure we are under obligations to him for the fine service he has rendered there.

I also want to say something about Mr. Fawcett of the National Wool Marketing Corporation. He is closest to Washington. I saw his report on this wool situation. He has it well in hand, he understands it thoroughly; and I am sure that you are under obligations to him for what he has done there for you.

Please remember, fellow wool growers, that these things just don't happen, that this is a tremendous country, that the pressure upon your government is now greater than ever before, and unless you have men of clear vision and high purpose to represent you down there, this business of yours will get tangled up in the wheel tracks and will be forgotten. The fact that your wool is now ten or twelve cents above parity is, in my judgment, due largely to the efforts of this National Wool Growers Association.

### This Government of Ours

I would like to talk with you about your government; so many things I ought to say that I haven't time to say. If you choose, we might this morning stand for a few moments beside the grave of the Unknown Soldier and understand his thoughts and his belief now that in death he has walked for years with the great generals and the military leaders of the past, but we shall not do that.

May we just talk briefly about this

government of ours. It didn't just happen. When the forefathers who landed at Plymouth Rock in the fall of 1621, when their Mayflower touched our shores, this nation was destined for all time to be the home of a sound system of capitalism, to be the home of individuals of all the world. A nation, and the only nation, on the earth that had never known feudalism, that had never known the tyranny of masters, could not fail to grow and become great, especially when you and I know the theories which guided the fathers in the establishment of our government.

### Declaration of Independence

You will recall that after the battle of Bunker Hill, after Paul Revere had made his memorable ride, the Continental Congress of the United States called a session to declare their independence from King George III. It was at that meeting in June, 1776, that our government was born. A fellow by the name of Roger Henry Lee, a great Southerner, proposed to the Congress that the United States was, and of right ought to be, free and independent. He presented a resolution to that effect but something called him from the city and a few days later the resolution was passed and the chairman of the Continental Congress appointed five distinguished statesmen to draw up a declaration setting forth the reasons for our freedom, the reasons for the establishment of the new government. The president of the Congress at that time appointed Thomas Jefferson as chairman of the committee, John Adams who later became president, and Benjamin Franklin, a fellow by the name of Sherman and one Livingstone, to draw up this document. So Thomas Jefferson went out and wrote the Declaration of Independence, and John Adams insisted on a few changes in it which didn't amount to much but which displeased Mr. Jefferson; the original document shows the words he scratched out and the new ones he put in.

We talk about grave conditions now. The conditions prevailing at that time were so serious that after reciting the cause for the separation of this government from Great Britain, the fathers

ended their declaration in this way: "With an unfaltering trust in Divine Providence for our guidance, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor," and with that declaration the document was signed, and every one of the fifty-six men who ultimately put their names upon that document knew if they should ever again fall into the hands of the Redcoats they would pay the supreme penalty at the end of the hangman's noose.

Then down through the Revolutionary War, with the winter at Valley Forge and the bloody footprints in the highways around my home: never in history did any army struggle, never in history did any general lead with the sacrifice and the pain and the torture which characterized the movements of this Continental Army of ours. And we follow it down to Yorktown where we find the final surrender to Washington and LaFayette.

### Difficult Days

And then we didn't have a government; we had nothing but a few independent states, twelve of them, all free and independent, without any government. And, of course, such an institution could not long survive, and the fathers, led mostly I think by Franklin and Madison met in Philadelphia and for ninety days struggled to bring forth our Constitution, and after it was brought forth it took two or three years before the other states finally adopted it. But they adopted it, and set up this government of ours which came into existence on March 4, 1789.

And at the end of fifty years it had grown from a few colonies of three and a half million people into a nation of many states with its millions of people. It was, fifty years after birth, the most prosperous nation in the world. So the people of America set aside July 4, 1826, to honor the fathers remaining alive who had signed the Declaration of Independence. There were but three of them then: Thomas Jefferson who had been president, John Adams who had been President, and Carroll of Carrolltown, Maryland. That was the queerest day in the history of America. The people of the whole nation crowded into their schoolhouses



and churches to do honor to these three statesmen. From every platform orators extolled their great patriotism, but it was to be a fatal day. John Adams was sick in bed up in Massachusetts. He had been president. He had never been very friendly with Thomas Jefferson. So on this day while this celebration was going on in his honor, it came his time to die and he went to the great beyond, thinking only of this nation whose Declaration of Independence he had signed, and his last words as he passed to the company of the other fathers were "Jefferson still lives."

John Adams didn't know what had happened on that memorable day down at Monticello, Virginia. Please remember that back in the early days the fathers had organizations of different names, one the "Minute Men," another "The Committee on Safety,"—secret organizations. Thomas Jefferson had belonged to the Committee on Safety, and this day when Adams had died, as I say he didn't know the scene that was being enacted in the home of Thomas Jefferson at Monticello. Go with me to his bedroom. We see his tall bed with those high posts surrounded by its curtains; there in that room and in the adjoining room are gathered the great statesmen of the day, for on this July 4, 1826, Mr. Jefferson too was passing to the company of the other fathers. And there at the bedside we see the physician, as was the custom of the time, holding the withered pulse of this great statesman, hoping to record the last feeble flutter of a noble heart. And when those around the bed believed that Jefferson had passed to the Great Beyond, his old eyes opened, he struggled almost to his elbows and looked off into the future and he said, "The Committee on Safety ought to be warned." He was going to his final resting place with the thoughts that had prompted him during the entire Revolutionary period and the period that followed, for those unseeing eyes of his, as they looked off into the future with a Divine vision, saw something happening to this beloved nation of his which justified, he thought, the warning of this Committee on Safety. I don't know what the danger was that he saw. Maybe he saw the union shop legally es-

tablished in America; maybe he saw an unpayable debt placed upon the burdened shoulders of the American people; maybe he saw the day when this nation would be embroiled in a conflict which at its close, regardless of who may win, will of necessity change the government which he loved so. When the shades of evening drew its curtains over the great festivities of that day, July 4, 1826, of the three fathers who had seen the sun rise on that memorable occasion, there remained but one, Carroll of Carrolltown, Maryland.

### Gettysburg

I shall detain you but a moment. July 4th has been an historic day in our affairs. You will recall that it was on July 4, 1863, that the Union forces won the battle of Gettysburg. They didn't know that they had won on July 3rd. The danger confronting the nation then was as great as now. The forces of the South had been uniformly successful; they had beaten the Union armies twice at Bull Run, almost destroyed them at Fredericksburg, defeated them at Chancellorsville. Indeed, on the morning of July first General Lee said, "We will start our march to Washington,"—and he came mighty near to going there. He went clear to Gettysburg, within one hundred miles of our capital city. There he found drawn up against him the forces of Meade, and for three days the great battle raged to determine whether this was to be one nation or two nations. Some time during the early morning of July 4, 1863, Mr. Lee, after having suffered tremendous losses, withdrew his forces back into Virginia and the nation was saved.

And the people of the North were so happy that this nation was again to be united, one and inseparable, they held a great ceremony in November, 1863, at Gettysburg to set up a monument in commemoration of the battle which had saved the union. It was there Mr. Lincoln spoke as follows:

Four score and seven years ago our fathers founded on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the principle that all men are created equal.

Today we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that government or any

government so conceived and so dedicated shall long endure.

We are met on a great battle field of that war. We have come to dedicate a part of that field as the final resting place of those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this, but in a broader sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, both living and dead, who fought here consecrated it far above our poor ability to add or detract.

The world will little note nor long remember what we saw here but it can never forget what they did here.

It is rather for us, the living, to be here dedicated to that great work which those who struggled here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather that we here dedicate our lives to the unfinished task before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; that government of the people, for the people, by the people, shall not perish from the earth.

I know that I but speak the sentiments of every wool grower here today that be the sacrifice what it may we shall do our full part to carry the stars and stripes to complete victory.

### Denver Stockyard and Packing Firms Indicted

A FEDERAL grand jury on March 9 indicted the three largest meat packers in the United States, the Denver Union Stock Yard Company and 29 other firms and individuals on charges of violating the Sherman anti-trust law, according to an announcement in the Salt Lake Tribune of March 10, which said:

The defendants were charged with conspiring to "restrain trade and monopolize trade of fat lambs for eastbound shipment" in Colorado, Utah, southern Wyoming, eastern Idaho and northern New Mexico.

The indictment accused the defendants, including Swift, Armour and Cudahy packing companies, of meeting in Denver, Chicago and Omaha and agreeing to eliminate the direct buying of fat lambs in the Denver marketing area.

The grand jury, after making a partial report to U. S. District Judge J. Foster Symes, continued its investigation of the alleged monopolistic practices in other industries. Judge Symes set bond for each of the defendants at \$1000 each.



# The Wool Market on March 6

By R. M. Ahern

National Wool Marketing Corporation

**L**AST month we tried to bring you up to date in as much detail as was available on regulatory measures, either enacted or proposed, of the War Production Board and the Office of Price Administration concerning the use of wool. Some of the confusion of mind prevalent in the trade, due to the individual temporary price ceilings on the domestic shorn wool, was dissipated by the announcement from the Office of Price Administration of permanent ceilings on domestic shorn wools. These ceilings proved to be somewhat higher than had been anticipated and represented an average lift of six to eight cents per pound, clean, above the then prevailing market.

While this action clarified the situation with respect to the domestic wools, it, nevertheless, complicated the operations of the topmaker and yarn spinner. The topmaker at the present time is acting under a temporary ceiling which does not permit of his paying domestic ceiling prices for wool to go into the manufacture of tops. Recently, however, representatives of the topmakers have met with the Office of Price Administration with a view to the naming of a permanent ceiling which they have suggested be brought into line with the ceiling on domestic shorn wool. Action on this is expected shortly. Domestic pullers, likewise, feel that their ceiling should be brought into line more nearly comparable with that of domestic shorn wools.

An informal meeting was held this week in Boston between importers and manufacturers using South American wools and a representative of the Office of Price Administration. The gist of the meeting, as reported to us, was that the ceiling on South American wool should be raised, since at the present time it is impossible to bring South American wools into this country under the existing ceiling.

The recent order governing restrictions in the use of domestic wool for non-defense purposes to 20 per cent of

the wool used in the basic period last year in the case of worsted mills and to 10 per cent in the case of woollen mills, has created some hardship upon certain types of manufacturers; in the case of worsted mills, more particularly those engaged in the manufacture of knitting yarns. This action has very seriously curtailed production for this type of mill, which was engaged largely in civilian business, due to its lack of equipment or orders for military purposes.

In connection with the curtailment of the second quarter, it might be said that the authorities hope to encourage the use of substitutes in the manufacture of goods for civilian purposes. They have, as a matter of fact, released 125 million pounds of rayon to be allocated for civilian purposes.

The ban on the importation of Australian wools still stands and we have a report this morning (March 6), though not confirmed, that Cape wools of good topmaking and spinner's type, of which we import a large weight, have likewise been withdrawn.

Contracting in the far West, prior to the announcement of the permanent ceiling, had been proceeding rather leisurely, but immediately after the ceilings were announced there was literally a tidal wave of contracting in the West, at prices ranging from 34½ cents in Nevada to 43 cents in Montana for a clip which normally is considered choice.

It is estimated that somewhere above 60 million pounds of wool has been contracted to date and that approximately 50 per cent of this weight has been passed on to the manufacturers in the form of graded wool to be delivered next summer.

Prior to the announcement of the ceilings, our best information is that fine wools, of Class 3 type, were sold on a basis of about \$1.12 clean. They have recently brought \$1.15. If these wools come off in a nearly normal condition a very neat profit should accrue

to the dealers contracting the wool.

Representatives of the wool growers have seriously suggested to the authorities in Washington the advisability of taking over the wool clip. The extreme eagerness of such a large number of wool growers to contract their wool months in advance of shearing very definitely robs the strongest arguments of their effect. During the past week contracting in the West has subsided to a considerable degree.

The bulk of the wools sold are wools suitable for government requirements, that is, wools of the fine grade. It has, however, been rumored rather persistently that the government specifications may be lowered in order that greater use may be made of the half-blood and medium grades. Very large additional orders for government goods are expected at almost any time and it is a fair guess that many of the recent contracts were made in view of this.

The results of the war in the Pacific to date leave us none too happy. With Singapore gone and the Netherlands East Indies all but overrun, Australia is in imminent danger of attack. Japan, with her silk business gone, must look longingly at the rich prize she would inherit should she overcome Australia with its valuable wool clip.

At last reports, the government's stock-pile of strategic wool amounted to about 260 million pounds—Australian, Cape and South American.

In spite of the increasing hazards in the Pacific, ships are getting through with wool cargoes, and it is hoped to build the reserve supply to one-half a billion pounds. All of our domestic wool will, of course, be needed and most of it for purposes necessary to the successful prosecution of the war. The government, therefore, is encouraging the use of suitable substitutes for civilian use, including a greater use of mohair and lower-grade wools not immediately necessary or eligible in government work.

## Domestic Wool Quotations — Week Ended Friday, February 27, 1942

Reported by Agricultural Marketing Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

## GRADED TERRITORY WOOL

	Scoured Basis Boston Prices	Grease Equivalents Based Upon Arbitrary Shrinkage Percentages (1)					
		Shrink and Grease Equivalent		Shrink and Grease Equivalent		Shrink and Grease Equivalent	
Fine Combing (Staple) —	\$1.15-1.18	(63%)	\$.43- .44	(65%)	\$.40- .41	(68%)	\$.37- .38
Fine French Combing —	1.12-1.15	(64%)	.40- .41	(66%)	.38- .39	(69%)	.35- .36
Fine Clothing —	1.03-1.08	(65%)	.36- .38	(68%)	.33- .35	(71%)	.30- .31
1/2 Blood Combing (Staple) —	1.10-1.13	(58%)	.46- .47	(60%)	.44- .45	(64%)	.40- .41
1/2 Blood French Combing —	1.07-1.10	(59%)	.44- .45	(61%)	.42- .43	(65%)	.37- .39
1/2 Blood Clothing —	1.00-1.05	(60%)	.40- .42	(62%)	.38- .40	(66%)	.34- .36
3/8 Blood Combing —	.97-1.04	(53%)	.46- .49	(55%)	.44- .47	(58%)	.41- .43
3/8 Blood Clothing —	.93- .96	(54%)	.43- .44	(56%)	.41- .42	(59%)	.38- .39
1/4 Blood Combing, 48's-50's —	.93- .96	(50%)	.46- .48	(52%)	.45- .46	(55%)	.42- .43
Low 1/4 Blood, 46's —	.88- .92	(45%)	.48- .51	(47%)	.46- .48	(50%)	.44- .46
Common and Braid, 36's-40's-44's —	.88- .93	(44%)	.49- .52	(46%)	.48- .50	(49%)	.45- .47

(1) In order to present scoured basis prices in terms of greasy wools, scoured basis market prices have been converted to grease basis equivalents. Conversions have been made for various shrinkages representative of light, average, and heavy shrinking wools for the different length groups quoted.

## Contract Prices

DETAILS of the whirlwind of contracting that hit the western sheep areas before and after announcement of the wool ceiling price on February 21 have been reported in the various state and local publications. While the activity has died down somewhat during the last week, it is now (March 7) estimated that around 70,000,000 pounds of western wool has been placed under contract in the country as a whole, and that about half of that volume has been sold to manufacturers, the recent cessation in contracting being reported as due to the slowing down in manufacturers' purchases.

In Arizona where shearing is under way, wool has been sold at prices ranging from 35½ to 41½ cents. Few reports have been made of Colorado contracts, although it is said that as high as 42 cents has been paid in the north-western part of the state.

California prices range from 37 to as high as 49 cents, several contracts being reported at 45, 46 and 47 cents in the Sacramento Valley for light shrinking clips.

The Star Valley pool of western Wyoming, was taken at 42 cents and the Warren clip of eastern Wyoming at 40½ cents. Details as to discounts, etc.

are not available. In Idaho the top appears to have been 42 cents for the crossbred Mesa clip with some business at 41 cents (no discount) and more at 40 cents and downward.

Montana contracts are reported by the News Letter of the state association at from 35 to 43 cents for undescribed clips. Texas 12-months' wools of lighter shrink were signed up as high as 45½ cents and 40½ cents for spring wools. In Oregon somewhat lower prices have tied up numerous clips.

So far as can be judged, in the absence of facts as to grading and shrinkage of any of these clips, it appears that if the new ceiling prices are obtained by dealers, there will be a comfortable margin between those prices and country costs plus freight, especially in the cases of the finer wools.

Army Meat Program  
Continues

THE work of training those connected with the preparation of food for our Army in proper methods of cutting and using meat continues at various camps over the country.

This program of the National Live Stock and Meat Board is being con-

ducted during the first quarter of 1942 with three sets of two demonstrators. A series of four-day lectures and demonstrations is in progress at Army posts in the southern area, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Florida and North and South Carolina being included. F. J. Boles, who presented this work at the recent National Wool Growers Association convention, and D. P. Tyler are handling this part of the program. P. A. Goesser and Vern Olmstead are holding three-week training schools at Chanute Field in Illinois, at the Presidio or Fort Ord in California, and at Camp Lewis in Washington, and spending six weeks at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Similar schools are being held under the direction of H. H. White and T. N. Blumer at Fort Meade in Maryland, Fort Bragg in North Carolina, Fort Benning in Georgia, Jefferson Barracks, in Missouri, and Fort Devons in Massachusetts.

The cost of the demonstrations by Messrs. Boles and Tyler, which relate chiefly to the use of lamb, is being carried by the Colorado-Nebraska Lamb Feeders Association and the New Mexico Sheep Sanitary Board for the first part of the year and will be borne by the National Wool Growers Association during the latter part of the year.

# 1942 Wool Fund

## Contributors to the Wool Fund in February

### CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Louise Linser & Son

### COLORADO

L. W. Blossom	J. S. W. W. & B. D.
W. E. Camp	Middlemist
Boyd S. Crawford	Leah Middlemist
E. N. Demoret	J. F. Newman
Geo. S. Dalgetty	L. F. Orvis
Green & Bailey	Efton Park
Roy Humphrey	Tom Price
Hunt Bros.	Richard Price
Charles L. Jolley	Robert Rector
Ernest Langholf	Carl Reck
Roy Mathews	A. M. Scott
Charles O. Miller	W. L. Smith
J. B. Millard	John Simpson
D. L. Middlemist	

### IDAHO

A. E. Holmquist & Son George A. Reed  
Mrs. P. J. McMonigle & Star Valley Wool Pool  
Sons

### MONTANA

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### SOUTH DAKOTA

Arthur Honeyman E. M. Ramey  
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C. H. LePoel & Matt Gill

### UTAH

Ralph E. Ellis

### WYOMING

H. L. Bassett	A. D. Macfarlane
Bower and Demer	George Renner
Santiago Curuchet	C. L. Sparks Estate
Jean Curuchet	J. Curtis Sampson
William Dooley	Warren Livestock Co.
Leeland U. Grieve	E. D. Worden
K. H. Hadsell	J. C. Weaver
Kirk & Clark L. & L. S. Co.	

## Will Wool Win the War?

THE idea that wool, particularly pure virgin wool, may be a decisive factor in the present world conflict, is the subject of an article by Donald MacGregor in a recent issue of This Week. Pointing out how adulteration of uniform cloth "may work havoc with the health of soldiers," Mr. MacGregor says:

German uniform standards, of course, are considerably below those of our Army, which is the warmest-clad in the world. Our government requires the use of pure virgin wool; Germany permits the addition of 20 per cent reworked wool—old rags, really—and 10 per cent of one of two cellulose fibers, called Woolstra and Vistra, which resemble paper. \* \* \* Germany because she is no larger than Texas, and because her population is dense, never grew much wool. Normally, she imported about 400 million pounds annually, chiefly from South America. She felt the pinch of a

## 1942 WOOL FUND RECEIPTS FROM WOOL GROWERS TO MARCH 1, 1942

### BY STATES:

Arizona	\$ 18.40
California	3.60
Colorado	732.00
Idaho	270.00
Kansas	62.89
Missouri	.20
Montana	1,513.34
Nebraska	39.90
New Mexico	38.65
North Dakota	27.55
Oklahoma	12.30
South Dakota	137.20
Texas	2.10
Utah	313.50
Washington	.60
Wyoming	850.43
Pacific Wool Growers (not allocated)	367.75

\$4,390.41

### BY DEALERS:

Adams and Leland, Inc.	\$ 68.10
Dewey Gould and Company	1,026.34
Hallowell, Jones and Donald	447.30
Merrion and Wilkins	1,891.37
Munro, Kincaid, Edgehill	132.85
Pacific Wool Growers	367.75
S. Silberman and Sons	209.30

### BY STATE ASSOCIATIONS:

California Wool Growers Association	\$ 3.60
Idaho Wool Growers Association	180.90
Wyoming Wool Growers Association	62.90

\$4,390.41

wool shortage in World War I, and so, before starting World War II, undertook to improve her position. She increased her flocks slightly and, shortly before her armies marched into Poland, bartered in South Africa and the Argentine for 400 million pounds—by our Army standards only a half-year's supply. Her conquests have helped her very little in the matter of wool. The world's annual clip is about 4,200 million pounds. Of this, not much more than 250 million is in Germany and Hitler-controlled areas. \* \* \* Italy is in the same boat as Germany, but Japan is better prepared. The Japanese bought heavily in Australia before going to war, and their military operations are largely confined to mild-temperatures.

After setting up the volume of wool which is at present available or in sight for consumption in this country, Mr. MacGregor concludes that an acute wool shortage in the United States is not probable, but that "to make certain that our military forces will have all they can possibly need, certain mild rationing has been ordered for civilian consumption, and in the meantime, as the war goes on, the Axis wool position will grow steadily worse. Fortunately for the democracies, the sheep of the world seem to be working against Hitler."



## O. P. A. Official Considers Wool Labeling Essential

INFORMATION on the changes in quality and construction of consumer goods made necessary by the war should be given to the public, Dan A. West, deputy director of the Consumer Division of the Office of Price Administration, declared in a statement issued early in February, commending those members of the wool and textiles industries who have taken a stand against a move to suspend the Wool Labeling Act during the emergency.

"These groups realize," Mr. West said, "that consumers will willingly make all sacrifices necessary for the war production program provided they are kept informed. Where substitutions are necessary in consumer goods, as in the case of civilian woolen articles in order to conserve wool for both military and civilian purposes, it would be disastrous to civilian morale to take away information on the content of such goods."

The Wool Labeling Act, in operation since July, 1941, under act of Congress, provides that every wool product sold to the public must carry a label telling the fiber content of the article.

"The people of this country have already indicated that they will accept—in fact that they want—conservation and reduction of the flow of materials into civilian goods where that will speed successful prosecution of the war," Mr. West stated. "But they want to be shown the necessity for it and, above all, they want to be kept informed of the nature of such changes."

"If consumers were now suddenly deprived of the information which appears on wool labels, at a time when conservation is so important to the war effort, they might feel that the goods they are receiving are so poor that they aren't even being told what the goods are made of. Whereas, in actual fact, the fabrics which they will receive in the textile goods they buy, if properly made, will be entirely serviceable and will adequately meet the requirements of the civilian population."

"Rather than deprive the public of information now available on the con-

struction of the things they buy, as in the case of woollens, manufacturers have a responsibility to provide more detailed information on the performance and care of goods. With this additional information, consumers will be better able to take care of the goods they buy and make them last longer, thus reducing the strain on the nation's war production facilities which results when goods wear out and replacements are necessary.

"I want to commend the members of the wool and textiles industries who have taken a stand against the suspension of the Wool Labeling Act," Mr. West said. "They are showing patriotic foresight in their declaration that the public should have more information about the things they use, not less, in wartime."

## Wool Marketing Associations To Make Collections

THE wool marketing associations of Colorado and Wyoming have advised the National Wool Growers Association that they are making the collection of 10 cents a bag in 1942 for the American Wool Council's promotion fund.

Others of the twenty-three subsidiaries of the National Wool Marketing Corporation have advised that they will act on the request to make the 10-cent-per-bag collection at their annual meetings in March.

## Colorado State Forest Advisory Board Acts

THE Colorado Wool Growers Forest Advisory Board met in Denver, Colorado, on January 12, with twelve out of the fourteen national forests of Colorado represented at the meeting. Three Forest Service officials were also present.

Considerable time was spent on what the qualifications of advisory board members should be and on the adoption of a commensurability policy. The following policies were adopted at the meeting:

### The Establishment of Advisory Boards

A majority of the permittees on each district of each forest must be requested to meet for the purpose of electing a district or local forest advisory board. To be members of an advisory board the permittees must be paid-up members of the Colorado Wool Growers Association, but not all permittees have to be paid-up-members. The duly elected district or local advisory board members shall elect one of their members to become a member of the forest-wide advisory board. Each forest-wide advisory board, consisting of a member from each district board, shall designate one of its members to become a member of the state advisory board. This state advisory board shall designate one of its number to represent the state upon a national advisory committee, to be composed of delegates from the state advisory boards of the eleven western range states.

Matters that cannot be settled by local advisory boards and forest officials may be appealed to the state appeal board, which shall consist of five members of the state sheep advisory board and one forest official. Members of the appeal board shall be appointed by the chairman of the state advisory board and each appeal shall require the appointment of the members to act on the appeal board for that case.

### Commensurability Policy

Colorado commensurability will be computed on an animal-month basis for the entire period that the stock are off of the forest. The permittee must show ownership of sufficient commensurability to carry his permitted stock for the same period of time that they are permitted on the national forest, or, at least, 50 per cent of the commensurability must consist of the product of the land owned by the permittee.

Where feed resources are not definitely a part of the operation, dependent on forest range, they should not be included as commensurability. Lands used as summer pasture will not be considered in determining commensurability. Long-time cash crops (such as fruit) will not be considered, but grains, roots and similar crops actually fed to permitted livestock will be considered.

Range stock owned in excess of numbers permitted on the forest will not be considered in determining commensurateness of the applicant. In determining numbers of stock for which applicants are commensurate, feed produced from leased land, licenses for use of public domain and contracts for purchase of hay may be considered in accordance with local practice and subject to the minimum ownership requirement.

Each feed resource will be reduced directly to animal months. Crops peculiar to certain localities when given consideration will be evaluated locally. Roots and threshed grain, when given consideration, will be reduced to terms of hay on a basis of relative feed value.

## New Mexico Wool Growers Convene at Albuquerque, February 5 and 6

THE attendance at the 39th annual convention of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association, with 600 present, was the largest on record. The fact that these men recognized the necessity for economy in all non-defense spending was shown by the resolutions that were adopted in which they were willing to forego the benefits of the soil conservation program and other services in order to increase the war effort. They also asked that state and local governmental agencies reduce their expenditures and accept the same sacrifices that the livestock industry is willing to make.

It was felt that too many demands should not be made on the National Government and that the nation's leaders, the railroads, the Forest Service and the Taylor Grazing administrators would be fair in their treatment of the livestock industry.

The two-day program was outstanding in its educational values. The "wool school," which followed the address on "Australia and New Zealand Wools," by Professor J. F. Wilson of the Animal Husbandry Department of the University of California, was one of the highly valuable features of the program. Two ewes were shorn at one of the meetings, the fleeces weighed in the grease, washed, scoured and the shrinkage taken. This enabled the grower to see the entire process through which the wool had to go in order to be ready for manufacture. Interest ran high in as much as estimates had been made on the difference in value of the two fleeces before shearing.

It was recommended that this annual wool show be made a permanent part of the wool growers' convention and that even greater effort be put into next year's event. It was also recommended that arrangements be made for prizes to be offered for a special department in which 4-H and F.F.A. boys and girls could enter competing wools. Special interest was shown in the twenty blankets woven from wools entered in last year's show and double that

number could have been disposed of at the very reasonable prices of the blankets offered by the wool show management.

The New Mexico Wool Growers asked that the government take over the wool clip and for two shearings after the war. They emphasized the importance of proper preparation of wool for market. They recommended that, during the emergency, wool buyers advance the full cost of wool bags with the proviso that the bags be returned.

Mr. D. P. Tyler, the National Live Stock and Meat Board's specialist, gave a highly instructive talk and demonstration on lamb and the proper methods of preparing it for cooking. While in Albuquerque, Mr. Tyler demonstrated to the mess sergeants and staff at the air base the cutting of lamb and beef for Army use.

"Wartime Meat Advertising," with a new sound picture, was interestingly presented by A. P. Davies of the American Meat Institute.

Other speakers were Clyde Tingley, mayor of Albuquerque; C. B. Kelland, author and rancher of Phoenix, Arizona; Tom Clayton, Separ, president of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association; A. D. Brownfield, Deming, vice president of the American National Livestock Association; W. A. Keleher, president of Board of Regents, New Mexico State College; Dr. Thomas C. Donnally, University of New Mexico; D. M. Martinez and Tom Snell of the New Mexico Sheep Sanitary Board, and Dr. A. L. Hershev of the New Mexico Agricultural College.

Mr. Floyd W. Lee, San Mateo, was elected for the twelfth consecutive year as president of the New Mexico Wool Growers Association, without the mention of an opposing candidate. The association is certainly fortunate to continue to hold as capable a man as their leader another year. Jess Corn of Roswell and James L. Hubbell of Datil were elected vice presidents and Miss Isabel Benson was unanimously returned to the office of secretary.

In the wool show, the 15-pound fleece of a purebred Rambouillet ewe, entered by A. D. Jones of Roswell, was selected as the grand champion fleece, and winners of first places in the other classes were: Fine combing, J. H. Clements of Hope; fine French combing, Walter Crockett, Ramah; half-blood combing, Don C. Smith, Wagon Mound; three-eighths blood combing, Lee Corn, Roswell; Rambouillet stud ram, New Mexico Agricultural College.

### Texas Directors Meet

THE largest directors meeting in the history of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association was held in Sonora on March 2, with well over 100 directors from throughout West Texas in attendance.

In their business meeting, the directors pledged their "lives and fortunes to the successful conclusion of the war." They declared members of the association would refrain from attempting to take advantage of the world conflict to further their own gains, but that they would cooperate in every way with the government in prosecuting this country's battle against aggression.

After the morning's business session, a meal was served the directors and their wives at the Sonora Wool and Mohair Company warehouse, where a dance band played during the meal.

President Fred Earwood and Secretary Vestel Askew reviewed various effects of national emergency legislation upon sheep and goat raisers.

The dues and warehouse committee pledged the cooperation of warehousemen in continuing the proper handling and marketing of West Texas wool and mohair.

The livestock traffic committee registered strong opposition to the proposed 10 per cent increase in freight rates. This committee also voiced opposition to the proposed permission of railroads to charge freight rates on equipment furnished at their discretion rather than equipment ordered by shippers.

The Plaza Hotel in San Antonio was selected as headquarters for this year's annual convention in December.

Standard-Times

# 1942 Livestock Inventory

THE entry of the United States into the war found the country with the largest inventory of livestock since 1934, according to the report issued on February 18 by the Agricultural Marketing Service. As of January 1, 1942, cattle and sheep numbers were estimated as being the largest ever recorded, while the hog inventory was the fourth highest in the last 15 years.

There were 74,607,000 head of cattle on ranches and farms at the opening of this year, or 3,146,000 head (4 per cent) more than the estimated number for January 1, 1941. Of this increase, 1,286,000 were milk cattle (cows and heifers and heifer calves) and 1,860,000 other cattle.

The estimated number of stock sheep on January 1, 1942, was 49,204,000 head, an increase of 1,400,000 head or 3 per cent over a year earlier, while the number of sheep and lambs on feed for market on that date was estimated at 6,755,000 head, which was 300,000 head higher than in the previous year. The total of all sheep of 55,979,000 head is the largest for all years. The detail on the sheep inventory as of January 1, 1942, is shown in the table.

The number of hogs on farms at the beginning of this year was 60,526,000 or 6,270,000 (12 per cent) above that shown for January 1, 1941. A 12 per cent increase in chickens and a 6 per cent increase in turkeys were reported. Numbers of horses and mules continued to decline, 4 and 3 per cent respectively.

"The unusual increase in livestock numbers this year," the report states, "resulted from a conjunction of factors that tended to encourage increases in numbers of different species. In the case of cattle the increase was largely a continuation of the upswing in the cattle number cycle which goes up for 6 to 8 years and down for a somewhat similar period. The present cycle started upward in 1939 and the rate in 1941 was accelerated by relatively high prices

of live animals and of milk and milk products and favorable feed conditions. With sheep the increase reflected relatively high prices for lambs and wool, a favorable lambing season in 1941 and

very good feed and range conditions. In the case of hogs governmental actions of several kinds encouraged increased production which otherwise would not have occurred."

## SHEEP AND LAMBS ON FARMS JANUARY 1

State and Division	Stock Sheep			Sheep and Lambs on Feed*	
	1941	1942 (Preliminary)		1941	1942 (Preliminary)
		Number	Per Cent 1941		
	Thousands			Thousands	
North Atlantic (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania)	755	762	101	54	45
South Atlantic (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida)	1,007	982	98	—	—
Ohio	1,901	1,939	102	375	330
Indiana	676	710	105	166	161
Illinois	639	671	105	275	265
Michigan	850	816	96	270	230
Wisconsin	382	393	103	100	75
Minnesota	1,133	1,167	103	335	270
Iowa	1,341	1,395	104	617	524
Missouri	1,525	1,571	103	170	170
North Dakota	983	1,022	104	130	182
South Dakota	1,816	2,064	114	278	292
Nebraska	377	403	107	565	750
Kansas	606	636	105	530	660
NORTH CENTRAL	12,229	12,787	105	3,811	3,909
Kentucky	1,069	1,090	102	—	—
Tennessee	402	410	102	—	—
Alabama	40	41	102	—	—
Mississippi	64	66	103	—	—
Arkansas	100	107	107	—	—
Louisiana	282	290	103	—	—
Oklahoma	333	363	109	65	50
Texas	9,656	10,139	105	175	210
SOUTH CENTRAL	11,946	12,506	105	240	260
Montana	3,635	3,780	104	375	360
Idaho	1,822	1,858	102	253	210
Wyoming	3,548	3,619	102	290	270
Colorado	1,717	1,769	103	865	1,115
New Mexico	2,150	2,066	96	160	150
Arizona	748	752	101	15	15
Utah	2,352	2,399	102	153	210
Nevada	755	770	102	30	23
Washington	595	571	96	44	52
Oregon	1,626	1,577	97	70	60
California	2,919	3,006	103	119	96
WESTERN	21,867	22,167	101	2,374	2,561
UNITED STATES	47,804	49,204	103	6,479	6,775

\*Includes sheep and lambs in commercial feed lots on feed for market.



# Lamb Markets

## Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1942	1941
Total U. S. Inspected Slaughter in January.....	1,619,991	1,625,178
Week Ended:	Feb. 27	Feb. 28
Slaughter at 27 Centers.....	281,645	274,321

### Chicago Average Live Lamb Prices

Good and Choice .....	\$12.08	\$11.00
Medium and Good .....	10.98	10.32

### New York Average Western Dressed Lamb Prices

Choice, 30-40 pounds.....	21.44	19.60
Good, 30-40 pounds.....	20.50	18.75
Commercial, all weights.....	17.19	16.50

## Chicago

RECEIPTS of sheep at Chicago have been running about normal for the past two months. The obvious reason is that the supply is in strong hands in the West and is being fed to the markets about fast enough to fit the market demand. In February the total amounted to 183,000, compared with 177,500 last year and 199,000 two years ago. With the exception of last year, it was the smallest February since the beginning of this century. A large percentage of the supply came direct from Colorado and other western states where most of the lambs are fed at this time of the year.

For the first two months of the year total receipts amounted to 365,000 or practically the same number as came during the same period of last year. Shipments, mostly to eastern markets for slaughter, total 38,000 for February or about the same as last year, but for the two months shipments are 16,000 less than last year. The supply coming direct to packers was less than usual and totaled 17,500 for the month of February.

There was a steady and reliable demand for the lambs all month and prices showed less fluctuation than usual. The lambs were generally well finished and exceptionally uniform in quality. With receipts keeping pretty

close to the current demand from day to day, there was not a great deal of change in prices. Top was \$12.90, with most good light-weight lambs at \$12.40 to \$12.65 and stronger weights at \$12 to \$12.40. The month closed with the best shipping lambs at \$12.35 compared with \$11.20 a year ago.

The January top was \$13.10 with the closing top at \$12.60. As the season advances and lambs are fed longer, more of the heavy weights are in evidence. Buyers naturally penalize these lambs particularly if they go much over the 100-pound line. During the month a good many 100- to 105-pound lambs sold at \$11.75 to \$12, with the bigger weights at \$11.25 to \$11.75 and some down to \$11. Though most of the lambs came from Colorado, Nebraska contributed a good many at \$11.60 to \$11.75. Wyoming sent in 92-pound lambs at \$11.75 to \$11.85, Idaho 99-pounds at \$12, and Montana several loads that sold at \$11.90 to \$12.

Shorn lambs showed up sparingly at \$10.25 to \$11, and some that were summer shorn brought \$10 to \$11.50.

There was an active call for feeder lambs during the month but not many were received. A few costing \$10.35 to \$12 were taken out to shear.

Not many matured sheep were received. Yearlings were scarce and sold mostly at \$9.75 to \$10.75, with now

and then a small jag of twos at \$9 to \$9.75.

Late in the month the feature of the trade was the sale of several loads of 120- to 125-pound fed range ewes at \$7 to \$7.50. These prices are the highest for ewes since 1937.

For several months up to the first of February fat lambs sold \$1.50 to \$2 per hundred higher than a year ago but now the difference is about \$1. Good to choice lambs are at the highest point for this month since 1929 and Colorado fed lambs are also the highest since that time for the month. In February, 1929, the best Colorado lambs sold at \$17.35; in March they brought \$17.85, and in April \$18.10.

The advance in the hog market to a \$13.25 top late in the month brought the summit to the highest peak since August, 1937, and puts the level of the trade \$5.25 per hundred higher than a year ago. Beef cattle are \$1 higher than last year at this time. Dressed lamb has been selling unevenly at eastern points but lately has shown some improvement.

Light-weight lamb, 30 to 45 pounds, is quoted at Chicago at \$19 to \$21, which is about on a par with beef but \$1 lower than veal and \$6.50 lower than the best pork loins. Eastern markets are about \$1 higher than here. Heavy-weight carcasses have been discriminated against rather sharply. Weights from 45 to 60 pounds have been selling at \$16 to \$19. The general market for dressed lamb is around \$2 higher than a year ago. Mutton products continue steady at \$7 to \$10, with better action in the trade lately.

Wool is now an important factor in the sheep market and a strong sustaining influence on the market. Packers report some western lambs are shearing 8 to 10 pounds of wool which is selling at peak prices.

As the supply out of western feed lots is whittled down better prices are expected for lambs, according to local opinion. Practically as many lambs

March, 1942

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## Denver

**S**HEEP receipts at Denver in February totaled 116,145 head compared to 77,281 head during the same month a year ago, an increase of 38,864. The bulk of this increase came from northern Colorado where more lambs are on feed this year. Receipts from Colorado totaled 96,723 head, an increase of 37,787 over February, 1941; those from Wyoming, 4,477 head, a decrease of 2,401 head; New Mexico, 1,295 head, an increase of 230; and Utah, 1,316 head, a decrease of 2,970. Trucked-in sheep during February, 1942, totaled 15,883 head compared to 6,235 for February, 1941, an increase of 9,648 head.

Prices on fed lambs at the end of February were steady to 10 cents higher than January's close. Fed lambs,



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oming and farther west. Nearby feeders furnished only a moderate percentage.

Quality picked up and demand broadened as the month progressed, both eastern and local packers competing freely for their share. Where lambs had finish, they took them weighing 100 pounds and even a little above at top prices, but buyers shied at the heavier lambs that lacked real finish.

With killers absorbing bulk of the runs, only a moderate number of lambs were available for feeding and shearing. However, alternate periods of storms and soft weather held down country demand to some extent. As a result, shipments of replacement stock dropped to 15,694 from January's total of 22,835. The total was also a little short of a year ago, when 16,487 went out.

Prices paid for feeding and shearing lambs showed only slight variation throughout the month. The top was \$11.50 with most good lambs moving at \$11@11.25.

Fat ewes continued their seasonal advance, closing 50 cents over the end of January at a top of \$7, which, since the first of the month, has moved up to a current \$7.25 quotation.

The trade anticipates continued liberal receipts during the remainder of the fed season. Chances are most lambs will arrive in the wool and the market appears to have a firm footing at present. There is considerable speculation over the likely position of shorn lambs in view of the government order freeing shearlings with less than a 2-inch fleece. At the moment packers show an inclination to force a wider spread than has existed for some years between prices on the woolled and clipped offerings.

What will develop on spring lambs is also problematical. Contract trade has been quiet lately, following a spurt early in February, and the big packers seem disposed to wait until lambs are ready to ship. Some of the more optimistic are guessing 14 cents or better for California lambs at the river markets, but it's just a guess. It will be another month or more before anything definite develops on which to base quotations.

Kirby Kittoe

are on feed as a year ago but the general outlet for the dressed product and wool is much better. The upward trend of the cattle and hog markets is encouraging to the lamb feeder.

As the Army increases, more clothing is needed and more food. Strong efforts are being made to increase the lamb ration in the Army and some of the local traders predict that when the war is over more people will be converted to the consumption of lamb than ever before.

The slaughter of lambs at 27 markets is running about 280,000 per month, which is practically the same as a year ago.

Frank E. Moore

## Omaha

**A**LTHOUGH prices didn't average as high as in January, sheep and lamb feeders enjoyed one of the healthiest February markets in recent years in the face of comparatively heavy runs.

Omaha's receipts of 134,282 were only some 5,000 short of January and nearly 25,000 heavier than in February, 1941; also the heaviest for the month since 1934. At the same time all classes sold at the highest price paid during any February since 1929.

Receipt figures didn't fully reflect the actual tonnage of lambs marketed. The percentage of lambs averaging 100 pounds and up was exceptionally large, yet the market absorbed them from day to day without wide price fluctuations. Changes were frequent, but within narrow limits and at the end of the month fat lambs were selling in practically the same notch as a month earlier.

Extreme tops ranged from a high of \$12.25 to a low of \$11.50, but a big share of the fed woolled lambs moved in the narrow range of \$11.75@12. Very few shorn lambs arrived but a few loads of fall and summer clippers sold up to a high of \$11.25 or around \$1 below prices paid for full-wooled offerings.

Colorado and western Nebraska feed lots opened up in earnest to supply bulk of the February run, but there was also a good showing from Kansas wheatfield districts and a few from Wy-



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weighing 90 to 100 pounds, sold at \$11.75, freight paid, at the close of February compared to \$11.65, freight paid, at the end of January. The high point of the month was reached on February 20 when two loads of 99-pound fed lambs from Ault, Colorado, topped the market at \$12.15, freight paid; however, numerous 96-105-pound loads brought \$12.10, freight paid, and \$11.90 flat during the first week of February. At the close of February last year fed lambs were selling at \$10.85, freight paid, and \$10.65 flat, and yearlings at \$8.50, ewes at \$6, feeding lambs at \$10 and shearing lambs at \$10.60.

During the second week of February good and choice 85-pound feeding lambs sold at \$11.50 flat. Good and choice kinds bulked at \$11.15 to \$11.35 with truck loads at \$10.25 to \$10.75. During the third week of February a 78-pound load of feeders sold at \$11.10 flat and smaller lots brought \$10.25 to \$10.85. During the last week of February several thousand head of feeding lambs came in from the wheat fields and generally were of light weight. One large string of 54-pound feeders sold at \$11 while a load of 71-pound offerings cleared at \$10.85 to \$11.20 flat.

During the first week of February good ewes sold at \$6.10 with small lots at \$6 to \$6.35. During the second week of February good and choice fed ewes sold at \$6.60 to \$6.65 while a strictly good to choice lot arriving by truck reached \$6.85. Ewes held fairly steady the remainder of the month but a top of \$6.90 was reached for good to choice 120-130-pound fed ewes during the last week of February.

During the month several loads of shearing lambs scored \$11.10 to \$11.20 flat. Odd lots of yearling breeding ewes sold up to \$10 per head with a few at \$7.50 to \$8 per hundred.

A total of 27,369 lambs were slaughtered locally during February; 28,801 were purchased for slaughter at eastern seacoast points; 1,976 head went to Iowa and Minnesota for slaughter; and 4,425 head were purchased by west coast packers.

Ed Marsh

## St. Joseph

**R**ECEIPTS for the month of February were 84,326, compared with 112,028 in January and 95,605 in February a year ago. Of the month's total 6,770 came from Colorado feed lots, 7,912 from Nebraska, 6,222 from Texas and New Mexico, 22,419 from Kansas, mostly from wheat pastures, and the balance from local territory.

The lamb market was very uneven during the month and closed 15¢ lower. On the close, best fed westerns sold at \$11.85 against \$12.25 at the high time and \$12 a month ago. Natives sold up to \$11.75 on late days against \$12 at the high point. Recently clipped lambs sold late in the month \$9@10, and fall shorns sold up to \$11.25. Aged sheep were scarce throughout the month, and closing prices are around 25 cents higher. Fat ewes late in the month sold largely \$5.50@6.50, with best at \$6.75. Yearlings and wethers were scarce throughout the month.

H. H. Madden

## Grazing Service Cuts Down

The following statement was recently issued from the office of the Director of the U. S. Grazing Service at Salt Lake City.

**E**ARLY in March the Grazing Service made a round-up of about 500 units of automotive and power equipment to be made available, as needed, for military or defense construction by the Army or other war agencies in the 10 western range states.

Director R. H. Rutledge set up this stock-pile of machinery after a two-day conference with regional graziers in Salt Lake City. Graziers were instructed to reshape plans and cut all construction that can wait until the Nation's No. 1 project is successfully completed.

"Construction jobs other than those absolutely necessary to proper use and management of the range will be postponed for the duration to make this move possible," Mr. Rutledge said. "For this reason emphasis will be placed on maintenance of existing improvements, rather than on new construction."



tion. Projects vitally essential to the livestock industry and to the protection of the range will be continued," he added. "Our work is important and none of the equipment we are releasing is surplus under ordinary conditions. The main thing now is to win the war."

The plan, which is subject to the approval of Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, calls for mobilization of the equipment at points where the most good from a military standpoint can be accomplished. An example of this is the vast amount of runway and road construction necessary to put the various bombing ranges in shape for immediate effectiveness.

Included for transfer to direct war activities are passenger cars, panel-delivery and pickup trucks, dump and stake-body trucks, station wagons, tractors, air compressors, bulldozers, graders, rippers, rotary scrapers, and other machines.

The plan has the two-fold purpose of aiding war production now and conserving essential materials such as rubber, oil, and metal.

To meet these objectives all travel in the grazing regions will be reduced to a minimum consistent with good range administration. The activities of district graziers will not be greatly curtailed, but field travel by regional and other supervisory personnel will be cut to the bone. Trips will be planned so as to take care of all the work possible in the vicinity visited to avoid doubling back. Common carriers will be used wherever possible. When it is absolutely necessary that two individuals have business in the same vicinity, group travel in one car will be made. A schedule of equipment will be marshaled in each region based on minimum requirements to do the area job adequately. Upkeep and repair costs are expected to be reduced by 50 per cent, through rigid care and inspection of equipment, and by fitting the proper equipment to the job.

Added up, this puts the Grazing Service in a position to turn over nearly one half of its rolling stock for immediate use in the war effort. A pinch will be felt here and there, but that's a minor thing compared to the job that has to be done and done now.

"The production of meat and wool on a scale necessary to meet expanded needs continues to be a primary job and the stockmen themselves have this objective uppermost in their plans," Mr. Rutledge emphasized. "Nothing that we shall do will interfere with this loyal

effort to keep the boys at the front well supplied with these vital products."

Some time ago Director Rutledge announced that he had recommended a reduction of one fourth of the amount of appropriated budget, equal to \$250,000, which recommendation has been put into effect.

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# Auxiliary Work

## PROMOTION PROJECTS IN WASHINGTON

AS YOU know the "American Wool Council" is a national organization set up by the National Wool Growers Association, with Mr. Eugene Ackerman directing its New York office. Its object is to promote the sale of wool, and, through the truth-in-fabric bill which became effective last year, to protect the manufacturers, distributors, producers and consumers of the wool industry, and also to bring before the public the explanation of the Wool Labeling Act.

At one of our regular meetings Mrs. Alice Sunquist of the County Extension Service of Pullman gave us a very detailed talk and demonstration on wool, and from this meeting committees were appointed in Yakima, Lower Valley and Goldendale who are doing an excellent job in educating the public in this project. I hope you all have a chance to be present at one of these worthwhile meetings.

In May 1,000 books "Lamb for Goodness Sake" were distributed at all Yakima Safeway Stores at a weekend special on lamb.

In June 75 letters were sent to the secretaries of the chambers of commerce throughout the state asking cooperation on a state-wide blanket sale to be held the first week in August. At that time a letter was sent to Governor Langlie asking that this week be proclaimed State Wool Blanket Week.

At the Federated Women's Convention 300 lamb recipe books were given as favors at a luncheon, and at the State Nurses' Convention 200 books were used as favors.

At the Ellensburg State Grange Convention 250 books were given out to the public.

The County Extension Service kindly gave us their radio time to broadcast to the public facts about the labeling act.

Also 16 copies of the labeling act were distributed to the works adminis-

Material for this Department should be sent to Mrs. Emory C. Smith, 1835 Yalecrest Avenue, Salt Lake City, Utah.

tration secretary for use in night schools.

The Federal Trade Commission under this act is given a great deal of power and is authorized to have inspections and tests made of any wool product.

Mrs. W. A. McGuffie,  
Chairman Wool Promotion  
Committee

## UTAH

THE annual convention of the Auxiliary to the Utah Wool Growers Association was held at the Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 20, 1942. Usually two days are turned over to the annual meetings of the men's association and the auxiliary, but due to the fact that the National Convention followed at Salt Lake City, this year's activities were limited to one day and no social events were planned.

The Women's Auxiliary met jointly with the men's association in the first session the morning of January 20, holding its annual business meeting at two o'clock in the afternoon. The state president, Mrs. E. Jay Kearns, presided at the meeting.

Reports were read by the officers and delegates from local chapters, and chairwomen of standing committees. The featured speaker for the meeting was Mrs. Gertrude M. Hogan, head of the education department of Botany Worsted Mills, who spoke of the wool shortage that threatens today's housewife, already evidenced by the fact that whereas 600 new designs in materials have hitherto been presented to the public, this year will find but forty on the market. New fabrics, worsteds and combine-materials will, however, be available, Mrs. Hogan reported.

Officers who will be in charge of the

auxiliary during 1942 were elected at the meeting. Reelected to the executive post was Mrs. E. Jay Kearns; Mrs. Moroni A. Smith was chosen vice president; Mrs. Bryant Stringham of Vernal, second vice president, and Mrs. Scott A. Smith, secretary and treasurer.

All members of the auxiliary voted to join the Utah State Federation of Women's Clubs, and to support the necessary defense groups, such as first aid classes and mechanical arts classes.

## IDAHO

THE Idaho State Convention was held in Boise, January 6, 7, 8, 1942.

Idaho was very much honored to have at this time the National Auxiliary President, Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson. We were also honored to have Mrs. Arthur Boyd, Oregon Auxiliary president.

The evening of January 6, a reception was held in the Victory Room of the Hotel Owyhee, attended by about 75 women. Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson, Mrs. James Laidlaw, Mrs. Harry Soulen, Mrs. Robert Naylor, Mrs. Roscoe Rich, and Mrs. Angelos Katseanes poured.

On the 7th, a luncheon was held in the Crystal Ballroom of the Hotel Boise. The tables were beautifully decorated with small woolly lambs and feed racks filled with huckleberry branches. Life-sized white woolly lambs decorated the rostrum.

During the luncheon a style show was held and 24 Boise High School girls modeled the one-hundred per cent woolen suits and dresses they had made. The auxiliary gave two prizes of \$2.50 each for the two judged the most attractive according to style and workmanship. Songs were sung by Mrs. Thomas Burton of Cambridge, accompanied by Mrs. Ross Bates of Boise; and Miss Bene Aldecoa played several harp selections. Mrs. D. B. Drake of Challis gave a beautiful woolen afghan as a draw prize, which was won by

Mrs. Fred Brailsford of Buhl, Idaho. Favors for each lady were various colored linen handkerchiefs, attractively wrapped in cellophane and tied with woolen yarn.

The annual business meeting was held after the luncheon. New officers elected were: Mrs. Angelo Katseanes, Blackfoot, president; Mrs. A. C. Coiner, Twin Falls, vice president; Mrs. Chester Loveland, Blackfoot, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. David Little, Emmett, historian.

Mrs. James Laidlaw

### TEXAS

MRS. J. T. BAKER, Texas representative on the Promotion Committee for the National Auxiliary, reports that her efforts to place before the women of her state facts to promote wool are beginning to bring results. When the Wool Products Labeling Act was finally approved and information pertaining to it was obtainable, she prepared a letter urging home demonstration agents and others to help educate the public to the benefits of the act. One hundred thirty-five of these letters, together with a booklet describing the workings of the act were mailed. Also, a release by Mr. Eugene Ackerman of the American Wool Council on the use of skim milk in hat manufacture, and copies of Senator Clark's radio address about the Wool Labeling Act, were mailed out.

Distribution of cook books featuring lamb, and advertising stickers on lamb was also carried on as one phase of promotion work. Women's clubs throughout the state of Texas were urged to have speakers to acquaint consumers with the advantages of the Wool Products Labeling Act. Seven clubs in Fort Stockton agreed to feature these talks. Mrs. Marsh Lea gave these and was well received wherever she appeared.

### OREGON

LA GRANDE was the host city this year to the convention of the Oregon Wool Growers Association and the Auxiliary, held on January 9 and 10. A full program of interesting numbers kept delegates and guests well occupied during their stay in La Grande,

and all conceded that the committee in charge had made an extremely successful event of this year's meetings.

All sessions were held in the Sacajawea Hotel, and the auxiliary was called to order on the morning of January 9 by Mrs. A. S. Boyd of Baker, the state president. After the invocation by Rev. Irwin Motz, members enjoyed music by the Male Octet of the Eastern Oregon College of Education. Mrs. Lloyd Pierce of La Grande welcomed the visitors, and Mrs. Milton Carter, president of the Umatilla County Chapter, responded graciously to the welcome. National, state and county chapter officers were introduced, and an address was made by National President, Mrs. Ralph Thompson, who gave a most interesting account of her trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. Reports of State President Mrs. Boyd and Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Louis Osborn were also given during the morning. The program was brought to a close with an address by Miss Lucy Lane, extension specialist from Oregon State College, who gave a most instructive talk on "What's New in the Textile World," laying special stress on the new synthetic materials.

The chief social event of the convention, the banquet for all, was held on Friday evening. About 250 guests were seated in the large ballroom of the hotel. Tables were beautifully decorated with flowers, and the many corsages in evidence made a festive appearance. A delicious dinner with roast lamb as the main dish was enjoyed by all. Mr. Harry Zurbrick, president of the La Grande Chamber of Commerce, acted as toastmaster. Music during the dinner was furnished by the high school band, and afterwards by the sixty-voice cappella choir of the Eastern Oregon College. The feature of the evening was the auctioning of a Suffolk ram by the State Auxiliary. The ram was brought into the ballroom, placed on the table, and sold to Pat Dougherty of Vinson for \$280 after spirited bidding. Another ram, a registered Corriedale, was awarded by the auxiliary to the person who guessed most nearly his correct weight, Mrs. Roy Erickson of Grant County being the lucky winner. Guessing in this contest, which had been

carried on through the day, netted the auxiliary \$30. These two events were made possible by the cooperation and generosity of the Wallowa County Wool Growers, who through their president, Mr. Jay Dobbin, and Mr. Raymond Johnson and Mr. Garnet Best, bought, fitted, and donated the rams to the auxiliary, who feel deeply indebted to these individuals as well as to their association. The third money raising idea sponsored by the auxiliary was the giving of chances on a wool blanket with purchases of wool toys on sale in the hotel lobby. The winner was Mr. Frank Mason of Boston, representative of Hollowell, Jones and Donald.

On the morning of January 10, the auxiliary met in joint session with the men, and listened to an inspiring speech by Dr. O. R. Chambers from Oregon State College on "Building War Time Morale." They also heard Mr. Aled P. Davies of the American Meat Institute of Chicago discuss "Promoting Lamb Consumption Through Advertising." Later in their own meeting, reports of the county chapters were given.

In the afternoon the girls' glee club of the high school entertained the auxiliary, following which Mrs. Helen Cross gave a most interesting wool weaving demonstration. Two films, "DuPont's Synthetic Textiles" and "Call to Arms," closed the program.

During the convention the State Auxiliary voted to buy defense bonds and to continue with their rather extensive 4-H Club program. Umatilla County's scrapbook of wool advertisements was awarded the \$5 prize, and it was voted to continue this project, adding also lamb advertisements. The wool exhibit of Morrow County was awarded the prize in this field.

Only two reports from county chapters have been received by your press correspondent the past two months. These, from Morrow and Umatilla counties, tell of Red Cross activities, rummage sales, and publicity given to the use of lamb. We should like a report from each chapter each month so that all projects may be reported to the magazine.

Gertrude Fortner



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## "How to Carve Meat, Game And Poultry"

A review of a book by M. O. Cullen of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, recently published by Whittlesey House, a division of the McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. Price: \$2.00.

"THE first lesson in carving really starts in the retail market," says M. O. Cullen, meat carving expert of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, in his book, "How to Carve Meat, Game and Poultry." It is necessary to have a knowledge of names of the various cuts of meat, quality, conformation, bone structure, and how to cook meat to the proper doneness. All of these factors enter into the proper carving of the meat. Many good roasts come to the table only to be chewed, chunked and hacked because of lack of knowledge. Mastering the use of the blade comes with practice and only practice. Carving is a craft and in order to become expert one must do the job more often than on two occasions a year.

Good tools are a prerequisite to good carving. This does not mean necessarily expensive tools. Carving sets made in America are the best in the world. Care of tools is very essential. Sharpening of the knife should be done in the kitchen; it is very seldom necessary to "steel" a knife at the table. Meat carving sets should be used on meat only and not to cut rope, wire or lift lids or puncture cans.

Meat should be cut across the grain as it looks nicer, tastes better and is more easily chewed. The exception to this rule is in the case of steak, because it is one of our tenderest cuts of meat and the fibers are relatively short.

Meats that are allowed to cool somewhat and become set are very much easier to carve than hot ones. Always show the best side of the meat served. Except for the most skillful carver it is better to carve the immediate servings necessary before serving.

It is permissible for the carver to sit or stand as he carves, whichever is more convenient. One should not expect the carver to carve the meat from

too small a platter even though a roast might appear small on the larger platter. Skewers and string should never be allowed to arrive on the table.

Diplomacy is very important in carving to see that the choice morsels go to the proper people and that each is served a portion of the meat requested.

The foregoing are some of the preliminary steps and conventions as described by Mr. Cullen in his book. From here one is taken into the actual procedure step by step and into the rules to be followed for boneless cuts, such as rolled rib roast, beef tongue, beef tenderloin; for the unboned cuts such as short ribs, blade pot roast, rump pot roast, etc.; steaks, legs and shoulders; and ribs, loins, and saddles. Here details for the proper carving of each meat cut are given, supplemented with diagrams.

The carving of roast chicken, duck and goose are most ably explained, creating a desire on the part of the reader to try carving all of them.

It might seem strange on first thought that meat anatomy and poultry selection should play such an important part in a book on "How to Carve Meat, Game and Poultry," but there isn't a doubt that meat selection is the greatest mystery to the average consumer. These lessons on beef, veal, lamb, and pork with the accompanying meat charts are not only important to the one who purchases the meat but to the one who carves it. A knowledge of the location of the cut and the bone structure in a particular cut enables the carver to do a neat, speedy and appetizing job.

J. M. Jones

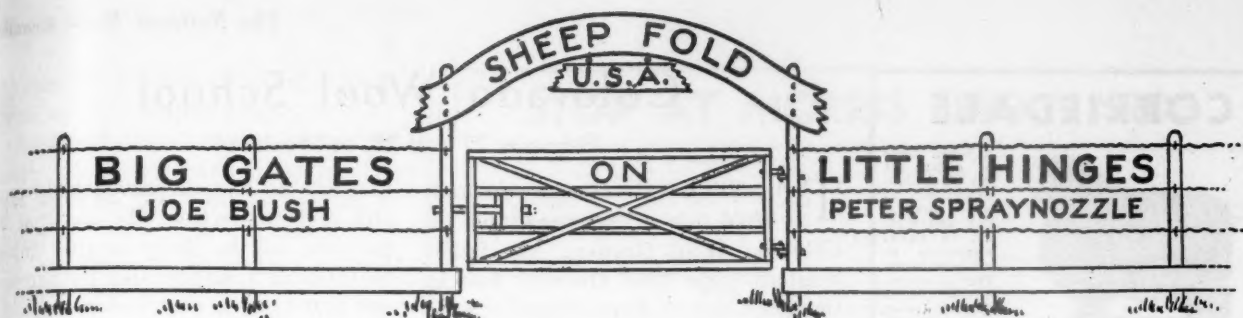


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AS WE write this copy for the March issue of the National Wool Grower, we feel the pull and urge of time. We hear the call of the shearing and the lambing pens, the green carpet of spring in sheltered places, the swelling buds on bush and bough. We hear the hungry bleat of the ewe as she catches the scent of green grass on the early spring range. So much for the flock. What of those who are the herders, the flock masters of the flock—what of them?

We hear much of what "the people" should do, where they should go, how fast they should travel when they do, what they should get along without, what they should buy, what they should be told and what they must not know. We hear that they are too much stirred up over a world afire with one group and not enough concerned to satisfy others. We hear so much about "the people" that we think it might be well to ask, "Who are the people?"

Joe Bush and me are sure that we are of "the people" referred to as "the people" that other people are so deeply concerned about. We are on no official payroll; we have no political job; we hold no official appointment; we are not authorized to tell anyone what to do or where to go, but so often have we been told where to go, what to do and how to do it, that we are sure we are of "the people" referred to in social circles as "the people."

We are of "the people" who are told how much income tax we must pay. We are told how much the sales tax is on the things we buy; we are told why our wheat acreage is limited even though all our land is non-irrigable dry farm wheat land. We are limited by the pattern cut for the farmer whose land will grow corn, wheat, oats, barley, spuds, hay, sugar beets or fruit. We are the fathers of young men who are taken in the draft; we must hire in their stead men rejected in the draft or refused employment in government plants; we must hire sheep herders from among men who don't know a bell wether from a bay gelding or a sage tick from the tick of a pocket clock. We must cut our flocks to meet the limiting of our sheep range and yet meet the government's demand for more wool and more lamb and more mutton meat. Judging from what is expected of us I reckon we are among "the people" referred to as "the people."

And right here let me say—speaking for Joe und me: We are glad, proud to be numbered and referred to as of the unnamed people of the United States of America. Count us among the unlettered, the unhonored, the unsung: "the people" whose actions must be directed so that our government in Washington can do what must be done, so that we

"the people" with our liberty "shall not perish from the earth."

Joe und me would rather have it so. We would rather be numbered with "the people" who have a job to do, or a business to mind, than to be numbered with the parasites who have no business or job other than the job and the business of "the people" whose business is none of their business at all.

Joe und me would rather know how to drive a truck, fire a locomotive, swing a spike maul, work with the sparkling iron of a welder, milk a cow, shear a sheep, dress a shoat, irrigate a "40" with only enough water for a "20," know how and where to start to drain a swamp, than to be an "unproductive busybody," a newspaper head-line hunter, a crystal gazer with a chart in a brief case that he feels gives him the right to tell "the people" who work with head and hands taught by experience, while he stands by a crystal gazing, self-anointed professional advisor who would presume to stand on the wooded shores of Puget Sound and by remote control direct the thinning, tattered ranks of General McArthur's Army in the war zone of the Philippines.

No wonder the President would pick up the lash of the "Man of Galilee" und drive the parasites from the capitol of Washington, D. C. Joe Bush und me expect to help in that drive. We have a bundle for "pension grabbing congressmen," but we're holding our bundle to present it next November when we can wrap our bundle in a ballot.

In the second book of Kings there is a story of a great woman—we don't know her name—we only know she was the wife of a farmer because we are told of an occasion when the son was in the field with the father and that the family home was so small that to care for just one guest a "lean-to" had to be built. This "great woman" had no way of proving her greatness except as a wife, a neighbor, a mother, and by the way she showed her hospitality. Yet so great was her reputation that on an occasion a man who was permitted to stand before the King asked her permission to present her to the throne, and this unknown woman, written down in the Book of Books as "The Great Woman," replied, "I prefer to dwell among mine own people."

This unnamed great woman was of "the people" like millions of American mothers of today—"unnamed"—who will be the "gold star" mothers of tomorrow, who without being told what to do will do what must be done. And when heavy laden, they will lay their burden, with their faith at the feet of the "Man of Galilee," und say: "Not my will but Thine be done."

Peter Spraynozzle

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## Colorado Wool School

February 27 and 28, at Montrose

**THE SECOND** annual Colorado Wool School, sponsored by the Colorado Wool Growers Association, Western Slope Wool Growers Association and Colorado State Extension Service, presented to 300 wool growers and others, very vital information concerning the wool industry.

Mr. Homer J. Henney, director of the Colorado State College Experiment Station, very ably summarized the highlights of the school under the following five points: (1) Changing the size of the ewe flock, (2) Culling technique, (3) Improvement of the ewe flock with ram selection, (4) Advantages to the wool grower in the uniformity of wool packaging and uniformity of marketing, (5) Better nutrition for wool producing animals.

Mr. Frank Meaker of Montrose presided at the opening session, introducing Mr. Clair Hotchkiss, president of the Colorado Wool Growers Association, who gave the address of welcome. President Hotchkiss spoke plainly to the wool growers concerning the problems before them and the need to get things in order for more serious times appearing on the horizon. He expressed concern over the decreasing quality of Colorado wool and stressed the need for sheepmen to apply the principles of better breeding, range and marketing practices learned at the wool school.

Mr. Don S. Stubbs, representing the Western Slope Wool Growers Association, responded to the address of welcome in which he expressed a need for orientation of all of us to a world in which change will be a dominating factor.

Dr. Julius E. Nordby, director of the United States Range Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, gave an illustrated lecture on the "Importance of Body Weight in Selection of Range Ewes." Director Nordby said that generally speaking the heavier ewe was the most profitable, and the heavier she was as a lamb the greater the wool production later.

By the use of picture slides, Dr. Nordby brought out how the cross-

breeding of ewes improved body type and wool production. He said that 90 per cent of the sheep in the United States have a Rambouillet background and that by close observation and selection of ewes and rams better sheep were being developed in the West. He described the essentials of good sheep as having open faces, big bone, and as straight a back as possible. The relationship of wool blindness to lamb production brought out the fact that the open-faced ewe produced 8.6 pounds more lamb than the covered-face type. The relationship of face covering to fleece production in yearling ewes showed that the covered-face type produced less than four-tenths of a pound more wool than the open-faced ewes.

Through proper selection in breeding, a more open-faced type of Rambouillet is being developed in the West. It has been proven that the crossing of an open-faced ewe with an open-faced ram is quite likely to produce an open-faced lamb.

It has taken 30 years to accomplish what has been done along the lines of open faces and smoothness of body that the Experiment Station now has in its Rambouillet herd. Culling is an important part of the station's work. The greatest number, 33 per cent, are culled for old age at 7 years, 18 per cent are culled for mutton and size at 3 years, 15 per cent are culled because the fleece is below standard, 12 per cent are culled because of unsoundness at 5 years, 5 per cent are culled for excessive skin folds at 3 years of age, another 5 per cent are culled at 4 years because of low lamb production, and 12 per cent are culled for all other reasons at an average of 3 years. In charts that were exhibited it was shown that as the length of staple increases in the fleece a greater clean content is the result without the loss of density in the wool fibers. The grade of wool desired can be obtained only through proper selection and crossbreeding.

Mr. J. S. Hofman, president of the Western Slope Wool Growers Association, presided at the Friday afternoon session and spoke on "My Idea of a



Typical Range Ewe," bringing in many ideas and worthwhile points.

An appeal to wool growers to produce every bit of wool and meat possible was made by Mr. Dan H. Hughes, of Montrose. "We must win this war at any cost. We have one program and one program alone, and that is victory," he said.

Manufacturers are turning to the use of foreign wools because of the better manner in which they are prepared for market was a statement made by Mr. James Coon, who is in charge of wool research work in the cooperative division of the Farm Credit Administration. He felt that the post-war market would be a major problem of the sheep industry and that improved marketing methods are a prime need. Mr. Coon also discussed the value of wool baling, which is the subject of a recent release by the F.C.A., reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

One of the prominent speakers on the wool school program was Dean John A. Hill, director and wool specialist from the University of Wyoming. The two topics on which he spoke were: "How to Determine the Value of Wool on the Range" and "The Best Kind of Wool to Grow."

In discussing the best kind of wool to grow, Dean Hill said that you should grow the kind of sheep and wool you like, that it depends upon the purpose for which the wool is used whether fine or coarse wool is best, that length is important but that mill men would just as soon have 2½ inch or 3 inch fine wool as 5 inch, that uniformity is important. Avoid wools with mixed coarse and fine fibers, and aim for tensile strength, elasticity, and lustre comparable to the grade, Dean Hill advised.

The value of proper feeds in the production of wool was explained by Mr. Ivan Watson, assistant professor of animal husbandry at Colorado State College. The plane of nutrition determines the growth and character of the wool produced, so it is important that this plane be sufficiently high to promote constant growth.

"The Future of Wool and Woolen Substitutes" was discussed by Miss Hazel Tharp of the Home Economics Section of Colorado State College. Miss

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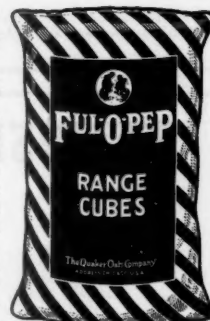


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Tharp displayed a number of substitute materials which she felt were going to play an important part in the clothing of the future.

Mr. Gordon Winn, county extension agent from Craig, Colorado, was responsible for part of a very fine wool exhibit. He explained the exhibits and the importance they played in educational work in various wool schools and state and county fairs or shows. "By en-

couraging exhibits growers learn at the same time to grade wool and know its texture," he said.

Mr. Van Horn in charge of the wool department of the Colorado State College had some very fine displays from his department and expressed his interest in cooperating with the growers in the testing and grading of their wools.

J. M. J.

**Around the Range Country**

(Continued from page 14)

cent of the ewes get supplemental feed, such as barley, corn and cottonseed cake.

There is a very small increase in the number of ewes in this section, and a few more ewe lambs were kept over for breeding than in the previous year.

Grain, hay and labor costs are higher than they were a year ago. The draft is taking our experienced help away (March 4).

Wilson E. Elliott

**Red Bluff, Tehama County**

Quite a lot of wool has been contracted in this section, most of it at 44 and 45 cents, some at 46 cents, and I believe a few clips at 47 cents (March 6).

Our biggest worry here is the weather. We had too much rain for a long time and that was followed by north wind and extremely cold freezing weather, frost and ice every night. It has continued dry and the north wind is still blowing. I cannot remember any time in 40 years when the feed prospects on March 1 were so terrible. We are just hoping that the rains will come as they always have in the past, although sometimes slightly delayed.

F. A. Ellenwood

**OREGON**

Plenty of precipitation came during the month, largely as rain in the west and mostly snow in the east. Temperatures were mild and favorable for livestock excepting the last week or ten days, which were much colder. Some wheat may have been damaged by low temperatures and lack of snow cover in the east. Unfavorable weather was reported for lambing, though without serious losses.

**Redmond, Deschutes County**

We have been feeding all of our sheep hay and grain since December 20; last year it was not necessary to do any feeding. Alfalfa hay is selling at \$10 a ton (February 26). This long feeding period has added to our already mounting operating costs, which we figure are now running 50 per cent more than a year ago.

I have not noticed any falling off in our coyote losses. Ed. McGreer

**WASHINGTON**

Moderately heavy rains early in the month were followed by much fair, pleasant weather, favorable for livestock. The greater part of the month was normal in temperature, values falling below normal the last week or ten days. Livestock have been on feed over the eastern portion lately, but are generally in very good shape.

**Winona, Whitman County**

We have a light snow on frozen ground, which is unusual at this time of the year (February 23) and which will make spring grass late in starting. All of our ewes have been getting grain and 75 per cent of them, hay with grass. We have had to use 50 per cent more feed this year than last. Very little hay is raised here and we are using pea cubes, barley and oats.

There has been no increase in the size of our ewe bands and very little expansion in numbers would be possible.

It is costing us about 25 per cent more than it did last year to run our outfits.

Lack of government hunters has caused an increase in coyote numbers.

T. L. Henderson

## IDAHO

The fore part of the month was mild with occasional rains, the rest of the month being comparatively cold, with some snow, providing moisture on ranges but causing some inconvenience in feeding, especially over the southern portion. Winter wheat has been winter killed in a few places on account of insufficient snow. The weather has been unfavorable for lambing, but losses are about normal. Heavy feeding has been necessary. Feed supplies are low in places, but livestock are good as a rule.

## Idaho Falls, Bonneville County

In this immediate section most sheep people feed hay and various grains entirely during the winter. The snow prevents much winter grazing. I am sure most of the men started feeding hay and grain this year at about the same time as in 1941. Early in the season alfalfa hay could be purchased in the stack at \$9 a ton, now it is \$15 and higher. While we have had real winter and snow since about the holiday season, our losses have not been any higher than usual.

I think the number of ewes bred and the number of ewe lambs retained last fall are about on a par with those of the preceding season.

Some progress has been made in this section in coyote control, due to continuous effort on the part of the government and individual sheepmen.

L. R. Ivie

## Rexburg, Madison County

Fair weather conditions and good feed prevail at this time (February 9). About 80 per cent of the ewes are being fed hay and grain as was the case last year. We have been using Purina and pellets along with oats and barley. Hay can be bought at \$9 a ton.

More ewes were bred last fall than a year ago and also more ewe lambs were kept for breeding. Winter losses have been about the same as in other years.

Cooperative efforts of the Fish and Wildlife Service and various wool growers' associations have resulted in some improvement in the coyote situation; our losses are decreasing.

## MONTANA

Mild weather with light rains or snows occurred early in the month, followed by much colder weather with continued occasional snows to hamper work with stock and cause some suffering and increased feed consumption. Only the southeastern ranges remain open to livestock, on account of snow. Hay and other feeds are ample but hauling has been difficult. Cattle and sheep remain in fairly good shape.

## Miles City, Custer County

We have had a very mild winter, with only two cold spells of short duration, and conditions on the ranges are good (February 23). Nearly all of our ewes are being fed grain (corn and a variety of other concentrates). Alfalfa hay in the stack is priced at \$6 a ton.

There has been some increase in the numbers of stock ewes over last year, but there is not room for very many more. Our winter losses have been light.

Operating expenses are increasing all the time. We are noticing some improvement in the coyote situation, however; our losses are smaller, due to the work of government and private trappers.

Fred Woolsey

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Most of the month was mild or with normal temperatures and only occasional light to moderate rains or snows; but later in the month temperatures fell to abnormally low levels, with heavier snows to hamper work with livestock and cause some shrinkages and heavier feeding. Most animals are, however, in pretty good shape for this time of year. Feeding was necessary only during the last week.

## Newell, Butte County

Sheep on the range are wintering fine (February 27), no hay being fed. Most of the ewes are getting some grain, however, mostly barley and corn. The winter loss is light so far. There are 10 per cent more ewes in this area this year than last, but I think the range is now carrying about all the ewes there is feed for.

Wool is being contracted at 40 to 42 cents a pound.

Our operating expenses are up about 15 per cent.

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Eugene Helms, President  
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Through the work of government and local hunters, coyote numbers are being cut down. I. R. Chiesman

### Sulphur, Meade County

Winter range conditions are good (February 19). About 20 per cent more ewes were bred last fall than in 1940 and there was about the same increase in the number of ewe lambs kept for breeding.

It is costing us about 30 per cent more to operate our outfits this year than last.

Paid trappers and other interested parties have been doing good work on coyotes, and our losses from that cause are smaller than they have been in the past. Charles F. Weiss

## WYOMING

Mild weather with occasional light rain or snow occurred during the fore part of the month, but the rest of the month was quite cold, with a continuation of light snowfalls over much of the state. Heavier feeding was necessary, and moderate shrinkages in weight were noted among animals in the open. Shed lambing has continued under difficulties, with normal losses, but rather heavy lamb crops.

### Douglas, Converse County

Weather conditions have been rather bad; lots of snow and low temperatures. Stock, however, have wintered fairly well, although our losses will be more than in the last few winters. More feeding has been done, I think about 75 per cent of the ewes are being fed hay and grain.

There is not much of an increase in the number of stock ewes during the past year, and owing to lack of moisture our ranges will not carry very many more sheep at this time.

About 400,000 pounds of wool has been contracted up to this date (February 28) at 35 cents a pound.

Running expenses are up about 20 per cent compared to last year, and our coyote losses are no smaller. We have got to keep after the coyotes continually, trapping, poisoning and shooting, to get the job done. Henry Reese

### Rock Springs, Sweetwater County

Conditions have been only fair here this winter. It has been very cold since

December 15, which has been hard on stock. Temperatures have moderated the past week, however (March 5). About 80 per cent of the ewes are being fed, which is about a third more than in 1941. Alfalfa hay is selling at \$15 a ton.

There has been a 15 per cent increase in the number of stock ewes here the past year and there is room for still more. Winter losses are about normal.

It is reported that 100,000 pounds of wool has been contracted here at 40 and 40½ cents.

Operating costs are about 20 per cent higher and coyote losses are no smaller. Ed. H. Rife Estate

### Tensleep, Washakie County

This has been a nice winter for sheep. We have had plenty of snow and the sheep have wintered well (February 11). We are running about the same number of ewes as a year ago. More ewe lambs were kept over for breeding, some of them being fed out; if the market should fall they will be held.

We estimate that our expenses are 15 per cent higher than they were last.

There is not much improvement in

the coyote situation. Our greatest losses occur in the summer months in the mountains. Harold Pearson

### Medicine Bow, Carbon County

There are good feed conditions on the winter range (March 1), and no feeding is being done. Last year we did a little supplemental feeding. I think there are about 5 per cent more stock ewes in this section than a year ago; our winter losses have been small, less than last year's.

Expenses of running sheep are 18 to 20 per cent more than they were last year.

Government trappers are doing effective work in coyote control and our losses are smaller than they used to be. Richards Brothers

### Node, Niobrara County

The winter pastures are the best for years because we had a good growing season last year. Sheep are in good condition (February 9); more of them are being fed because we have plenty of roughage. Prices of hay and concentrates are about the same as last year.

There are a few more bred ewes here than there were last year; also more ewe lambs were held back last fall.

Our coyote problem is still with us. We have effected some improvement by going after them ourselves with car and rifle, but a slow flying airplane could be used effectively in hunting coyotes. Thomas Pfister & Sons

### Gillette, Campbell County

Weather and feed conditions on the winter ranges are extra good (February 27). Although we generally feed cake to our sheep during the winter months, this year we have not done so. We have given corn to the ewe lambs.

There are more ewes in this section than there were last year and in my opinion still more could be run here.

Wool has been contracted here at prices ranging between 38 and 40 cents.

It is costing us 20 per cent more to operate this year than last.

Although we have both government and private trappers working in this territory, coyotes are on the increase; however they are not killing much. Reed & Morse

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